



The World's First Organized Yo-Yo Association • Setting the Industry Standards

AYYA NEWSLETTER

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Winter 2004 - Vol 11, No 1 • American Yo-Yo Association, Inc. • Established October, 1993

2003 Nominees

Meet the 2003 Nominees for the AYYA Hall-Of-Fame



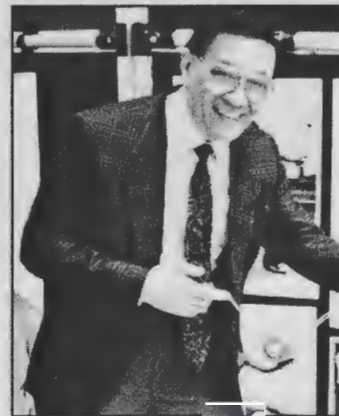
Bob Allen



Donald Duncan Jr.



Tom Kuhn



Harvey Lowe



Dale Oliver



Joe Radovan



Jack Russell



Bob Ruiz



Wilfred Schlee Sr



Gus Somera

Don & Donna Duncan Die in Accident

Donald F. Duncan Jr. 1927 - 2003
Donna M. Duncan 1931 - 2003

The Yo-Yo World lost a legend when industry giant Donald Duncan Jr. was killed on a New Mexico Highway on June 12, 2003. Don and his wife Donna, were traveling home from a two week trip when their car veered off the highway and overturned several times. Wit-

nesses at the scene of the accident did report seeing a 'whirlwind' near the Duncan's car at the time of the accident. The whirlwind apparently kicked up quite a bit of dust, but it is not know how much of a contributing factor it was in the accident.

see Duncan, page 16

AYYA Mission statement The mission of AYYA is to provide a venue for players and collectors to come together in fellowship and to engage in the promotion of yo-yo playing as an art form and a sport, for both amateur and professional players. It is also to render assistance to fellow yo-yo players and collectors; to provide an accessible source of information about yo-yo people and events; to conduct as many competitions as possible across the nation; and to establish uniform standards for running AYYA sanctioned competitions for all levels of skill from the novice to the professional.

Lucky Meisenheimer's Yo-Yo Man sculpture at his house in Orlando, Florida.



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Yoyoing.com Starts a Blog

Yoyoing.com has added a web log, or blog, to its list of yoyo website. A blog is a web page with short, frequently updated postings that are arranged by date - like a journal. The yoyoing.com blog includes links to yoyo references online, including articles, events, and more. The editors of the blog are the AYYA's own Jason Parrish and Jim Panky. Check it out at <www.yoyoing.com/blog>

AYYA Newsletter Delayed/ All Memberships Extended

Yes, it's been quite some time since the last AYYA Newsletter came out. The AYYA apologizes for the delay and to try to make amends, we've extended all active memberships for one full year. Check the renewal date on the label of the newsletter. This date is your new renewal date of your active membership. If the date is February, 2004 or earlier, you need to renew your membership to stay an active member.



The AYYA Newsletter is the official publication of the American Yo-Yo Association.

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Persons or companies interested in advertising in the AYYA newsletter should contact Dick Stohr at yoyoguy@erols.com

Mail all advertising copy (with payment) to:

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Please make all payments payable to "The AYYA."

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QUARTER PAGE (3.5 x 4.75) \$60

EIGHTH PAGE (3.5 x 2.312) \$35

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Worlds 2003

Completing it's fourth year in Orlando, the 2003 World Yo-Yo Contest once again lived up to it's billing as yoers from around the globe showed up to compete for world championship titles in six different divisions. Once the domain of the A and AA players, now you can compete for titles in the AP (Artistic Performance), 3A (Two yoyos, string tricks), OS (Off String) and CW (Counterweight) Divisions.

Once again, Lucky Meisenheimer hosted a fantastic Barbeque event at his house in Orlando. This year, the event also featured the official AYYA Record Attempts as well as some other contests open to all. Check the results of the new records on page 4..

On Saturday, American Johnnie DelValle took top honors in the A Division using his trademark body grinds. Japan's Shinji Saito defended his AA title, Eiji Okuyama took the inagural Off String World Title, Brazil's Rafael Matsunga (Red) took the initial title in the CW division while Daisuke Shimada of Japan won the 3A division. American Mark Montgomery won a spirited AP division title by providing his own beatbox music during his performance.

Longtime editor of *Yo-Yo Times*, Stu Crump was named Grand Marshall of the 2003 World Yo-Yo Contest and Takahito Hasegawa was named as the ninth National Yo-Yo Master, and the first from outside the United States.



Above: Worlds AA Top Three Finishers (from L to R): Koji Yokoyama, Shinji Saito, Yukihiro Suzuki (back row National Grandmaster Bill deBoisblanc)



Right: Worlds A Top Three Finishers (from L to R): National GrandMaster Bill deBoisblanc, Johnnie DelValle, Brent Dellinger, Hiroyuki Suzuki, Worlds Contest Promoter Greg Cohen



Left: Sport Ladder winners.



Left: A Finalists



Record Setters, from left to right, Matt Harlow, Dazzling Dave Schulte, Joshua Van Dalen, Jake Maloney, Andre Boulay, Hidemasa Semba pose with their AYYA record certificates onstage at Worlds.

New Records set at Worlds!

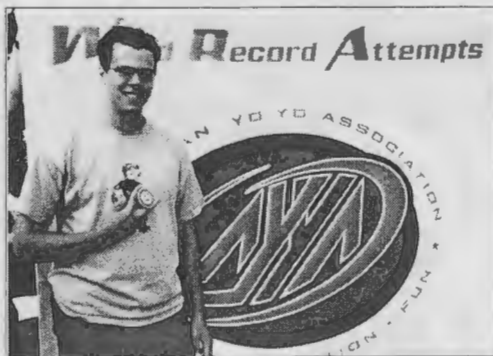
Lucky Meisenheimer's pre-Worlds Barbeque was not only the site of yummy food, but also the place where lots of new AYYA records were set.

Matt Harlow of Paradise Valley, Arizona set a new Open Division (any age) record for Whirlwinds with 153 reps, Jake Maloney of Canton, Michigan set a Junior (14 & under) record for Regenerated Trapezes with 35. Andre Boulay of Blandford, Massachusetts set a record with 18 consecutive Iron Whips. Hidemasa Semba of Tokyo, Japan topped Andre's record with an amazing 58 consecutive Iron Whips! And, finally, National Master and AYYA Board Member Dazzling Dave Schulte set both a personal and World Record with an incredible 184 consecutive Regenerated Trapezes. The only thing that could stop Dave was a yo-yo explosion! His Hyper Warp Heavy Wing's string broke after his 184th rep, the yo-yo went flying and broke into several pieces. What's left of the yo-yo was donated to Lucky Meisenheimer for display in his collection/museum.

If you want to attempt an AYYA World Record, ask the person who runs your local contest to test for them. For more information on testing for official AYYA World Records, e-mail Joe Mitchell at joe@mitchells.com.



Andre Boulay-Open-Iron Whips(18)



Jake Maloney - Junior Regenerated Trapezes(35)



Joshua Van Dalen -Open - Regenerated Trapezes (35)



Hidemasa Semba - Open -Iron Whips (58)



Dazzling Dave Schulte- Open Regenerated Trapezes - 184



Matt Harlow - Open -Whirlwinds (153)

Not a Bad Year...

Johnnie DelValle debuts signature yo-yo, wins National & World A Division Championship

By Joe Mitchell

16-year-old Johnnie DelValle had a pretty good year in 2003. All right, maybe that's an understatement. Johnnie, who hails from the San Francisco Bay Area, had one of those years us mere mortals can only dream about. First, Johnnie and YoYoJam debuted his signature series yo-yo, The Hitman, to rave reviews on at Worlds. Johnnie capped off his Worlds weekend by winning the single-A World Championship title. Not a bad couple days. A couple months later, Johnnie follows it all up with a National Title in Chico!

At Worlds, YoYoJam was selling The Hitman faster than they could assemble them. A rim weighted butterfly shaped yo-yo, The Hitman features original artwork by Johnnie on the caps. The Hitman is available to the general public with a \$45 price tag.



Johnnie competed for the single-A World Champion title. Early on in the routine, Johnnie shed his short-sleeved shirt to reveal his signature sleeveless shirt. With his long side-

burns and spiky hair, Johnnie oozes cool. What sets him apart during his freestyle is his mastery of grinds – generally described as spinning the yo-yo on different body parts before popping it back onto



the loop.

Johnnie, who is in 11th grade, started yo-yoing six years ago after he saw 1998 National Champion Alex Garcia on a TV show called Real TV. After he showed interest in yo-yoing, his father got him a Duncan Butterfly, and he's been yo-yoing ever since. He's been to Nationals

four times, finishing 4th in 2002, then winning this past year, and is the two-time defending Bay Area Championship (BAC) winner. 2003 was his first World Yo-Yo contest appearance.

Johnnie has been well known throughout the online yo-yoing community due to his videos he posts on his website, yoyofreaks.com. Featuring his distinctive artwork,



his videos as stylish as he is. Johnnie has created pogs for the sides of Spintastics, Buzz-On and YoYoJam yo-yos. His interest in yo-yos directly led to his interest in art.

Johnnie, who practices two hours a day, offers this advice to kids who wanna follow in his footsteps – "Take it seriously, but have some fun." I think you would be hard pressed to find someone who had more fun in 2003 than Johnnie.



Johnnie with his World Champion hardware

Montgomery Takes World AP Title

By Joe Mitchell

Mark Montgomery delivered on the promise that he has shown throughout the past several years and won the World Championship in the Artistic Performance (AP) Division in Orlando this past August 2. It hardly seems that long ago that Mark Montgomery was just another of the group of players who came down from Massachusetts to compete in some of my yo-yo contests in Delaware. I remember him entering the 2000 Mid-Atlantic Regional Championships in October of 2000. Mark finished in third place in the "Expert" Division, one step down from the "A" Division. Mark didn't even win that division, he placed third! Mark accompanied his technically excellent performance to his own beatbox rhythms. Mark was miked during his performance and delivered a perfect soundtrack to his style of play. Now, at the ripe old age of 18, Mark is considering retiring to become a judge.

The AP Division, now in it's second year, was once again a big hit among the audience. Judged for both the performers technical ability and their artistic performance to their accompanying audio selection, AP is more than just showing off the players yo-yo skills.

Viacom's music oriented channel VH-1 brought added excitement to the AP Division, as they followed the four American finalists in the AP Division – Montgomery, Nathan Crissey, Jack Ringca and Dave Bazan – from their homes to Orlando as they pursued the World Title. Show personnel breathed a sigh of relief as one of their featured players took the title. Unfortunately, it looks like the footage shot at Worlds will end up on the cutting room floor, as a spokesman for VH-1 said it will, in all likelihood, not air.



More Worlds Pics

All Photos by Joe Mitchell



Above: Rafael Matsunga (Red) on his way to winning the CW World Title.



Above: Shinji Saito won his second consecutive World AA Title.



Left and Below: Acrobatic maneuvers helped elevate AA play

Bottom of Page: Shinji Saito with his World Champ trophy.

Below: AYYA Records Chairman and Yo-Yo Collector extraordinaire Lucky Meisenheimer



Below: Nicholas Tsou practicing.





Left: AP Finalists Mark Montgomery, Dave Bazan and Jack Ringca check the list of start times for the AP Finals. Nathan Crissey, Mark, Dave and Jack were followed around by a film crew from VH-1's "Eye on the Prize" show. Sadly, it does not look very likely that VH-1 will broadcast the episode.

Below Left: Takahito Hasegawa was presented the title of "National Master," by the National Yo-Yo Museum in Chico.

Below: Longtime Duncan Demonstrator Bob Rule (far right) was reunited with two of his favorite students - Valerie Oliver and Forest Larson. Check Bob's wonderful webpage at <http://www.mryoyo.com/> for historical photos of his days working for Duncan.



Left: The National Masters present at Worlds 2003 - from L to R: National Grandmaster Dale Myrberg, National Grandmaster Dale Oliver, National Grandmaster Bill deBoisblanc (obscured), National Master Dazzling Dave Schulte, National Master Steve Brown, National Master Rick Wyatt and in front of them all, new National Master Takahito Hasegawa.

Stu Crump Honored at Worlds

Article courtesy worldyoyocontest.com

Stu Crump, publisher of the venerable Yo-Yo Times Newsletter, was named Grand Marshall of the 2003 World Yo-Yo Contest and given the World Yo-Yo Contest Award of Honor. Yo-Yo Times published it's first issue in 1988, and continues publishing to this day through an online format.

Stu stopped everyone's heart by nearly sprinting on stage to accept the award. Stu then gave a stirring speech and was paid tribute by yo-yo dignitaries offstage following the presentation.

Stuart Crump is best known in the yo-yo community as "Professor Yo-Yo," the editor of "Yo-Yo Times," the longest running yo-yo periodical. Like many of us, Stu was introduced to yo-yos by a professional demonstrator. But he didn't meet the yo-yo man at a contest or school demonstration. On a family vacation to Charleston, SC, the Crumps had the good fortune to be staying four doors down from Joe Radovan, owner of the Royal Yo-Yo company. The year was 1954 and every night found Stu and his brother watching in amazement as Radovan worked the yo-yo. Stu bought his first yo-yo at a corner store that summer: a three jewel Royal that cost 20 cents. Radovan carved an island scene on it and encouraged the boys to learn the basic tricks.

After returning home, Stu was pleased to find that girls noticed his new yo-yo skill, but gradually the toy moved to the back burner until 1960. That year a Duncan professional came to town and inspired a mini-craze. Then Stu put his yo-yo back in the drawer until 1972, when he received a silver Gorham yo-yo as a wedding present from his brother.

In 1980, the Crump brothers started an important newsletter "Cellular Radio News," serving the fledgling cell phone industry. Stu was promoting the highly successful newsletter at an electronics show in Las Vegas in 1985, when he saw the Smothers Brothers perform. Tom Smothers had just incorporated the Yo-Yo Man routine into his act and Stuart's interest was aroused again. In 1987, he was given a newly-released Tom Kuhn Silver Bullet as a gift. A call to Tom Kuhn resulted in a discussion of the need for communication among yo-yo enthusiasts.



National Yo-Yo Master Steve Brown pays his respects to Stu.



Stu displays his Award of Honor

Thus the idea for the "Yo-Yo Times" newsletter was born.

In 1988 the first issue appeared. Its yellow pages contained new tricks, interviews with yo-yo players and

manufacturers, new product announcements, contest news, ads for videos and string. In other words, it was everything a player needed to know and the newsletter rapidly became the glue binding together a newly-active yo-yo community. Yo-Yo times was critical to bringing together the people and publicizing the events that have built yo-yo into the worldwide sport and activity it is today. Now in its 15th year, the newsletter is still going strong, although it has moved from the yellow papers of yesterday to being published electronically on the internet and Stu now shares the editing with his daughter Jodi. Beyond his



Stu and his wife Peggy.



Stu with the legendary Duncan Yo-Yo Man Bob Rule

newsletter, Stuart Crump has promoted yo-yoing through writing several books including It's Yo-Yo Time and the Official Yomega Trick Book. He has competed in many contests, even winning the Advanced Senior Division at World's in 1995. And most personally, he has performed as a yo-yo entertainer to groups across the country. He is particularly keen to introduce the toy to young people, saying, "I didn't realize the impact the yo-yo had on me as a child until I was an adult."



YOUR MILEAGE MAY VARY 00018

Jason Parrish

Yo-yo injuries are a way of life for most of us who throw yo with any frequency. And everyone loves to share their worst injuries with all their compatriots, trying to see who can top who in the serious injury department. Well, I'll throw my hat into the ring with this harrowing tale that I like to call, "The Big Fat Lip."

It all started with some simple practice yoiing. My wife wasn't home from work yet, and I was chilling out practicing some tricks. I was just beginning to get into the intermediate level string tricks at the time, and was working on Cold Fusion. So I was really throwing hard breakaways, trying to maximize sleep times. Things were going well, but then I broke one of my own cardinal rules.

You see the yo-yo that I was using at the time was a brand known for getting knots and hangs around the axle (that's foreshadowing again). I won't slander any company by naming the brand, but they were bought by an another company and their name rhymes with "J- smacks;" which is what I wanted to do to the makers of this yo-yo after the soon to be

described incident. Anyway, since this particular brand of yo-yos were so prone to getting hung up around the axle, I made a point to always do a throwdown to clear the string gap and check for snags before throwing any really hard throws, especially breakaways (feeling the tension yet or what?). But for some reason, I broke my own rule. I cocked my arm and threw a monster breakaway, which proceeded to unravel about one-third of the way and then stop, before rocketing back at warp speed right at my face. The brutal collision between yo-yo and mouth left me at first stunned, and then frankly incensed. I was as much angry at myself as anyone else, but I loosed a few choice words in response to the incident.

It was upon speaking those words (or trying to at least) that I noticed that something was perhaps more seriously wrong. I mean it had hurt and all, but not so much that I figured it was any big deal. But when I talked I noted that the words didn't come out right. Then I noticed the blood pouring from my lip. Ooops. It had come a gusher. I ran to the bathroom

and stuck my head under the sink. I did that for a while but it had no noticeable impact on reducing the flow of blood. I tried holding a towel on it, but that didn't help much either.

Thankfully my wife arrived home about then. She was dismayed, but helped me get a call in to my atrocious HMO provider.

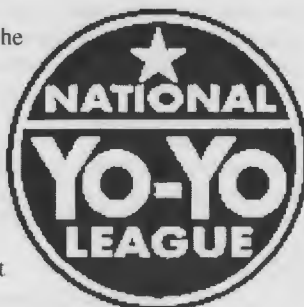
Their helpful response? "You did what? With a what? They finally deigned to see me, being as my lifeblood was slowly seeping away and all. Their final word, was the instruction that when I came, to bring the "weapon."

Well naturally at every stop in the healthcare system I evoked mirth when the cause and nature of my injuries became known. Everyone wanted to see the yo-yo. And if entertaining the front desk staff, nurses and doctors at my personal physician's office wasn't enough, they couldn't deal with my problem. So they referred me to the emergency room of the local hospital, where I got to explain the whole thing over again to a whole new group of amused employees. Apparently they don't get many 30 year olds with yo-yo injuries.

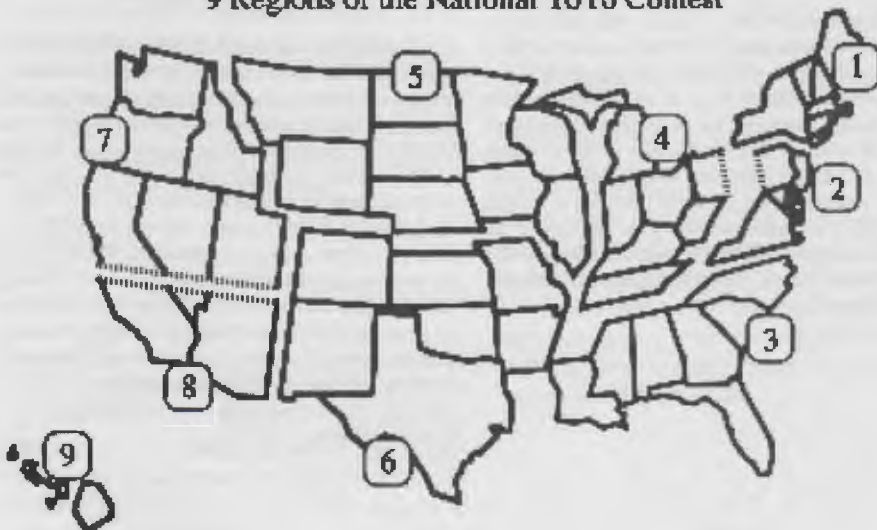
So anyway, six stitches and as many hours later I returned home. Of course then I had to prepare to explain it to my boss, co-workers, family and friends. SO i got to go through the same route on a regular basis until the stitches came out. But that's OK. It's just one of the prices of being a yo-yo player.

It's Getting Close to Regional Season!

When Bob Malowney set up the National Yo-Yo League (NYYL), he wanted to create a 'season' leading into Nationals. The Regional contests will take place, mostly, between April and September...leading into the Nationals in Chico on the first Saturday in October. Remember, winning a Regional event in A or AA gets you an automatic seed in the finals at Nationals and a couple nights at the Chico Holiday Inn hotel! So, sharpen your skills and show up at your local Regional. You must live in the specified region to be eligible to win the seeding and hotel stay, but most Regionals will allow anyone to enter and compete.



9 Regions of the National YoYo Contest



2004 Regionals

- 1 - Northeast Regionals - June 13,
Northampton, Massachusetts
Covers NY, CT, MA, RI, VT, NH, ME
- 2 - Mid-Atlantic Regionals - May 29 - Wilmington, DE
Covers VA, NJ, DE, MD, PA (Eastern)
- 3 - Southeast Regionals - April 2 -, Tallahassee, FL
Covers FL, GA, SC, NC, MS, AL, LA
- 4 - Midwest Regionals - TBD- Twinsburg, Ohio
Covers OH, IN, MI, KY, TN, WV, PA (Western)
- 5 - Mid-West Regional - June 19,
Mall of America, Minneapolis, MN
Covers WI, MN, ND, SD, MT, WY, NE, IA, IL
- 6 - Mid-America Regionals - TBD - Wichita, KS
Covers AZ, OK, TX, MO, KS, CO, NM
- 7 - Bay Area Classic - May 1, 2004 San Mateo, CA
Covers CA (Northern), NV (Northern), Utah, WA,
OR & ID
- 8 - Southwest Regionals - TBD - Los Angeles, CA
Covers CA (Southern), AZ, NV (Southern)
- 9 - Hawaii - Pacific Regional - TBD - Honolulu, HI
Covers Hawaii & Alaska

2003 AYYA Hall-of-Fame Nominees



The 2003 HoF nominees have been finalized. The 6 committee members each nominated a maximum of 10 individuals. Any person appearing on 2 or more ballots becomes a nominee. As an active member of the AYYA, you get to choose who is selected this year to enter the AYYA Hall-of-Fame. The candidates who receive the top two number of votes are automatically selected, as are any who receive at least 75% of the votes cast. You can choose no more than five candidates, you don't have to choose any if you do not believe they deserve selection. Look for the ballot inserted inside this newsletter. Return the ballot by April 15 for your vote to count.

All bios written by Lucky Meisenheimer, M.D.
Chairman AYYA History and Collecting Committee

Bob Allen

Bob Allen was best known in the yo-yo community for his successful contest promotions throughout the 1950s in California. Although not a yo-yo demonstrator, Bob Allen was one of the Duncan Yo-Yo company's best promoters. He put together a competition kit and worked with the parks and recreation department in California to develop a tournament program that has yet to be rivaled. The California system was responsible for the surfacing of such yo-yo greats as Dennis McBride, Bill DeBoisblanc and Connie Scarlett. Duncan did not deploy their "yo-yo man" demonstrators in California because they did not need them. In addition to tournaments Bob Allen promoted the yo-yo through the media by arranging public appearances of many of the top players of the time. One of the more significant was arranging for Dennis McBride and Connie Scarlett to appear in a film for Disney with the mouseketeers. The film was in 3-D and played in the Mickey Mouse theater in Disneyland. In the early sixties, with the decline of the Duncan yo-yo company, Bob Allen began his own line of yo-yos the Bob Allen Sidewinders. The company was short lived and the four models and string packs produced are all coveted by collectors.

Don Duncan, Jr.

Don Duncan, Jr. took over the helm of the Duncan Yo-Yo Company in 1957. At the time, the Duncan Yo-Yo was the most recognized brand of yo-yo in the world and dominated yo-yo sales producing 85% of all yo-yos being sold in the United States. Duncan continued to maintain the company's market leadership and in 1962 the company produced up to that time the largest yo-yo craze in America by introducing paid television advertising. In 1962, Duncan sold more than 45 million yo-yos. In its peak production the Duncan Yo-Yo plant was producing 60,000 yo-yos per day with 640 employees. After the closing of the plant in 1965, Duncan had a several year hiatus from manufacturing his yo-yos but in 1974 he again re-entered the market producing the Pro-Yo under the Duracraft name and then later changing the name in 1987 to PlayMaxx. Duncan was a founding board member of the American Yo-Yo Association. Even after his retirement from manufacturing of yo-yos, Duncan continued to give back to the yo-yo community.

Tom Kuhn

Tom Kuhn, a San Francisco dentist, is best known amongst yo-yo players and collectors as producer of high quality wooden yo-yos. In the 1970s he came up with a unique yo-yo design, a take-apart yo-yo, the no jive 3 in 1. Since that time multiple other yo-yos have been created by Kuhn and he has received several yo-yo patents. In 1979, he produced the largest functioning yo-yo, at the time, with a 50 inch diameter and weighed 256 lbs which was operated from a crane. In 1981, this yo-yo was listed in the Guinness Book of World Records. One of his yo-yos was also used by jeweler, Sydney Mobell, which was imbedded with 75 diamonds, 75 sapphires, 25 rubies and 25 emeralds. The selling price of the yo-yo was \$10,000. Tom Kuhn yo-yos continue to be produced and are a favorite of both collectors and players alike.

Harvey Lowe

Harvey Lowe was one of the first Yo-Yo demonstrators for the Cheerio Yo-Yo company of Canada. Harvey at age 13 won the 1932 World Yo-Yo championships hosted by Cheerio in London England beating out the legendary Canadian Joe Young. It has been said that his hands were insured by Cheerio for \$150,000. Since that time he has continued to play and demonstrate the yo-yo. He has made multiple television appearances including the 1989 Smothers Brothers special which featured several legendary yo-yo players. He made many appearances in the "Return of the Yo-Yo Traveling Show" in 1990. He has also made an appearance in the movie (documentary) "Who is Albert Woo.". In 2000 he was honored as the grand Marshal of the world yo-yo championships.

Dale Oliver

Dale Oliver started with Duncan as a part time pro in 1955. In 1957 he became a traveling pro and has been a yo-yo professional ever since. He founded his own yo-yo company, Oliver Toys, in 1995 which is now known as Spintastics and has developed a school program, "Yo-Yo Fun and the Science of Spin" which teaches yo-yoing to more than 40,000 children a year. A true dynamo, Oliver, over the years has set world records, been a world champion, been recipient of the "National Master" Award, founded the A.Y.Y.A. and has been instrumental in the development of the World Yo-Yo Championships.

Joe "Chico" Radovan

Joe Radovan, a Filipino immigrant, got started in the yo-yo trade through the Duncan Yo-Yo Company as being part of one of their earliest crew of yo-yo demonstrators under Pedro Flores. He toured the world with Duncan and was promoted as a Duncan World Champion. In 1937 Joe Radovan left the Duncan Company and began his own yo-yo company, The Royal Topps Manufacturing Company. He continued to promote yo-yos for Royal until the early 1980s. Radovan loved the yo-yo and although he had other promoters that helped with his Company, largely Joe Radovan was the main promoter for Royal yo-yos. Radovan had designed patents for yo-yos which were produced and over the decades produced scores of different yo-yos which are highly sought after by yo-yo collectors. The Royal Company still produces limited edition yo-yos through Joe's son, Tom Radovan.

Bob Rule

Bob, as with many demonstrators, got his origins from the Duncan Yo-Yo Company where he started as a part time employee under Barney Akers and later became a full time professional. In 1960 Rule took the promotional name "Mr. Yo-Yo," which became well known. Upon the demise of the original Duncan Yo-Yo Company (Bob was the last demonstrator on Duncan's payroll), Bob continued to promote the yo-yo through the Festival Yo-Yo Company where Bob was their sole demonstrator for a number of years. Bob has continued to support the yo-yo through play, collecting and through his website and continues to make appearances at yo-yo events. Bob recently donated his collection of paper documents related to yo-yoing to the Smithsonian Institution.

Jack Russell

Jack Russell, the founder of the Russell Yo-Yo Company, began his yo-yo career as a Duncan demonstrator in the 1940's. In the 50's, working with Duncan, Russell put together a foreign promotion division called DRI. He later parted with Duncan and formed his own company which produced the Russell Yo-Yos from 1958 and continuing to this day. Although not as widely recognized in North America, foreign Russell/Coca-Cola yo-yo promotions have made the Russell yo-yo the most recognized selling yo-yo worldwide. During the late sixties, seventies and early eighties when few yo-yo promotions were being held in North America, Russell contests flourished in other areas of the world. Although Russell no longer runs the Russell Yo-Yo Company, the company continues to produce and promote the yo-yo through his sons.

2003 AYYA Hall-of-Fame Nominees(cont)

Wilfred Schlee, Sr.

Schlee began producing yo-yos in 1931 in Canada after a yo-yo was presented to him and was told they were being sold in large numbers in the United States. His original yo-yos were called Hi-Ker but a new name, Cheerio, was introduced and broadened the field to the British market. Cheerios were so popular that Schlee could not keep up with the demand. Schlee's yo-yos were sold primarily in Canada and England and was the main force behind the Canadian and English yo-yo crazes in the early 1930's. In England, Edward the Duke of Wales, was photographed playing one of Schlee's Cheerio yo-yos. Schlee's son, Wilfred Schlee, Jr., carried on the tradition of producing yo-yos and continued to produce yo-yos in Canada and the United States through the early 1960's.

Gus Somera

Gus Somera made himself a legend as a yo-yo demonstrator, not based on skill and amazing performances, but on a commitment and congeniality for his chosen profession. Although known to many as Gus Somera, his real name was Sotero Parpane, using Somera as his lifelong performing name. An immigrant from the Philippines, he was one of the original crew of Duncan Filipino demonstrators recruited by Pedro Flores in the early thirties.

Somera's career spanned six decades as a yo-yo demonstrator working not only for the Donald F. Duncan Company but also for Duncan/Flambeau. His longevity as a demonstrator was only overshadowed by his likability. Somera was always willing to make the effort to carve an island scene on a yo-yo or spend a little more time with a student until the trick was mastered. All that speak of Gus Somera remember his good nature and patience with them as they were trying to become skilled at the yo-yo. He was described as a piper with the yo-yo. His constant companion and working partner was his Brother George Somera and together their promotions and contests impacted hundreds of thousands of children interested in acquiring yo-yo skills. Their constant touring over the entire country led Somera to be quoted as saying "There is not a city of any size in this country that I don't know my way around in". Gus Somera died at the age of 82 in 1990.

Board Of Director Nominee Bios

Joe Mitchell

I have been on the Board of the American Yo-Yo Association for the past four years, and have served as the President of the AYYA for the past two years. I also have run the Mid-Atlantic Regional Contest since 1999. It is part of the National Yo-Yo League that seeds players in the National Yo-Yo Contest in Chico. My family has a toy & hobby store in Wilmington, Delaware, where we've have yo-yo club twice a week since 1998. I am married and have a seven-year old son.

Jason Parrish

Jason Parrish (J-) is a long time member of the World Yo-Yo Community. He maintains the yo-yo websites Begin2spin.com (featuring beginner videos), and YoYoInfo.com (featuring the Yo-Yo Glossary, Champions Information, FAQs and more). He is an editor of the YoYoing.com Blog and a moderator of the yo-yo chat at irc.yoyoing.com. As a Board member he helped start the AYYA Hall of Fame, and currently serves as the chairperson of the that committee. When not yo-yoing or sitting in front of his computer at home, he serves as technology coordinator and computer lab instructor for Crump Elementary School in Memphis, TN.

New AYYA Yo-Yo Available

The new, active-members only, AYYA yo-yo is now available. It's a YoYoJam Big Ben yo-yo with a custom AYYA pog that has been hand painted by famed yo-yo artist John Higby! The yo-yo will sell for only \$20 postpaid and is available only to active members of the AYYA. Unpainted Big Bens have a suggested retail price of \$18 before shipping, so this is a great deal!

Check the label at the back of the newsletter to see when your membership expires. Make sure that you take advantage of this offer before we sell out! The yo-yos are uniquely painted with assorted designs, and are all different, so your yo-yo will probably not look like the one pictured.



Connie Scarlett Mitroff ...Pioneer female player



Lucky Meisenheimer, MD

AYYA History & Collecting Chairman

Traditionally, yo-yo competitions have been largely a male dominated sport even though females can play the sport as well as males. For every female player there seems to be a hundred male players. Superstar player standouts like Jennifer Baybrook, former modern National and World Champion, are few and far between.

Even before Jennifer, there were female greats such as Linda Sengpiel who dominated many contests with her skill and continued to play the yo-yo throughout her life. During Linda Sengpiel's reign in mid-America, on the West coast there was another female yo-yo champion that was truly a giant in her own right. Her name was Connie Scarlett, now Connie Scarlett Mitroff. Unknown to the current yo-yo generation, she dominated the yo-yo competitions in California for a number of years. From 1954 through 1958, she won the California State Championship four times. The California Championships, at the time, was arguably the best organized and largest yo-yo competition in the country.

Connie began playing at age ten in 1952. In 1953 she remembers that in California, this was the first year that the competitions were divided by sex. In California the competitions were well organized through the Parks & Recreation Department. Duncan yo-yo promoter, Bob Allen, was largely in charge of the entire State of California and had done an unbelievable job in setting up a tiered system of competition culminating in the State Championship. Players would start by competing at the Elementary School level. Winners of

the School Division would receive a Champion Patch and advance to the City Championship. City Champions would win the traditional Duncan Sweater with the large Expert Eagle Patch and qualify for Regional Championships. Regional Champions would win a trophy as well as being selected to go to State Championship where the honor was to receive a Schwinn Bicycle. The State Champion received \$500.00 which in the mid-fifties was a heck-of-a-lot of money to a kid under the age of fifteen.

She won her first State Championship in 1954 and went on to win State Championships four out of the next five years. Her last year of competing was 1958. After this she aged up to sixteen and during this period, yo-yo competitions were limited to children of age 15 or younger. Connie remembers as growing up she was practicing all the time, never being anywhere without the yo-yo in her hand. Her favorite competition yo-yos were the Duncan Jewel Yo-Yo and the Duncan Day Glow 77 Yo-Yo. Her favorite trick was the combination two hand "Shoot the Moon" and "Looping." She stated at the end of competitions, Bob Allen would frequently put her up on the stage with the male champion to show that anything that the male could do she could do as well or better.

Interestingly enough, her next door neighbor was Dennis McBride, now a well known National Yo-Yo Grand Master. He was encouraged, by Connie, who was a couple of years older than him, and as we all know, went on to greatness too in yo-yo competition and has continued to demonstrate and perform throughout his life.

During the time that she was competing, she did appear on numerous T.V. shows such as "Skipper Frank." She also made a movie for Disney with Dennis McBride and the Mouseketeers. The movie was 3-D movie where she and Dennis were dressed as clowns performing with the Mouseketeers. The movie was shown in the Mickey Mouse Theater at Disneyland for a number of years.

Her yo-yo skills were largely self-taught. Back in the day, in California, yo-yo demonstrators were not involved in the competitions be-



Connie in 1999 with her trophies

cause they were organized through the Parks & Recreation Department. She was self taught out of the Duncan Trick Book as were most of the California competitors.

In addition to Connie, her sister, Pat, was also an excellent female yo-yo player. Pat who was several years younger than Connie also made it to the



Connie in 1958 with various trophies

State Championship finals in California as well.

After putting up her yo-yo, Connie continued to live in California working for Disney since 1962. She still resides in California and continues her work with Disney. She admits now she only picks up the yo-yo on occasion, appearances being limited to church functions or friends.

All Photos courtesy Dennis McBride (www.yoyomaster.com)



Connie in 1955 with her District Championship Trophy



Dazzling Dave

Hold Your Own Contest BBQ, AKA "Spin-N-Grill"

A cool new gathering option has been growing in popularity in the yo-yo world, it is the "Spin-n-Grill", or contest BBQ. It really does not have to be an actual BBQ, it could just be an organized meeting. Sometimes they can be linked to a major contest, but that is not a requirement for this type of gathering. You could just invite a bunch of people to a "Spin-N-Grill" in your back yard. It provides players the chance to share tricks, trade yo-yos, practice new moves, and possibly even practice freestyles for the next big contest. In this article, I am going to give a few tips on organizing the contest BBQ or "Spin-N-Grill". There is no perfect way to do it, but hopefully it will provide you a guideline for your next gathering.

The first thing you need to do is pick a date. If you are planning it near a major contest, you really only have 2 options. The day before the contest, or the day after the contest. This is a preference decision for the most part. I like the BBQ before the contest. Having it the day before will give the out of town guests a chance to come in and get settled at a hotel. It also helps to loosen up everyone because they get a chance to meet and know each other before the competitive aspect of the contest. Having the BBQ after the contest can be tough because many of the contestants will have to get back home right away. But if you have no option, the after contest meeting can be a good time to review the event.

Of course, many places in the U.S. do not have a major contest. The "Spin-n-Grill" makes a great option for those locations. You do not have the immense work of organizing and running a contest, but you have the same great opportunity to bring many players together. The "Spin-n-Grill" is meant to be bigger than the normal local club meetings. You will want to try and draw players from further distances, maybe even from a state or two away. So when you pick a date, select one that is on a long weekend, or even a holiday. If you plan it when school is not in session, you might get more people to show up. The more players that show up, of any skill level, the bigger success your "Spin-N-Grill" will be.

Once you have a date selected, then you need to find a location. (keep in mind when picking a date, that the location may be in important consideration). The great thing about the BBQ is that it is very informal, and can be held anywhere. It can be in your backyard, a local park, or even certain types of restaurants are available to handle parties. The backyard option is my favorite. There is no cost to you, and there can be advantages to being near your collection/VCR/Bathrooms etc. The park can also be great. It will help promote your local club when the public sees all the action. Plus you will have

Now for the food. I guess you would not have to have any at all, but the name BBQ, or "spin-n-grill", implies food will be part of the event. And if people are taking the day to come to this event, food will have to be available at some point or another. Hot dogs, chips, and soda are easy to prepare, and not very expensive. Even if the food does not involve a grill, you could have a local restaurant provide a party platter (pizza, subway, etc) Another option is to have the people bring food to share, potluck style. If you do decide to buy the food on your own, I would recommend charging a small

fee to cover the costs. People will have no problem paying \$5-\$10 for food and drink. If you decide on a restaurant, everyone can take care of their own bill.

Finally, the last thought on the BBQ is the activities you can do. These can be planned and formal activities, or just "play it by ear" activities.

- Ask for AYYA sanction for testing world records. You would need to consider many requirements (ie. judges, timers, video camera and following the process the AYYA has laid out)

- Have music available, so the players who wanted could freestyle and prepare for the next contest, or just show off their skills.

- Best trick playoff. All of the players interested,

get paired randomly against one other player. Each does their best trick. The audience votes who was the best, and that person advances to the next round. Keep repeating with all of the players until only one person is left standing as the best trick Champion.

- Put together a modifying and dying workshop. Each person can show off their best work, and teach everyone else how it is done.

- Come up with a special activity that interests you specifically.

Open the activities up to anything, and you will be amazed at how much fun you can have!

It doesn't take too much to spark the next boom in yo-yo play. You need to teach and inspire other players to be their best. Find new ways to get people involved. The contest BBQ or "Spin-N-Grill" is another great way to bring people together to create that spark and help to fuel the next boom.



The Spin-N-Grill at the Midwest Regionals was held in Dave's nifty backyard

lots of space to yo-yo. Make sure to check for other planned events already scheduled in the park. Finally, the restaurant is a good possible choice. Pick the type of restaurant that has a banquet or party room. That way you can insure enough space to play, and hang out. This option also makes the food part of the BBQ easy, everyone buys their own. Also, because you are inside a restaurant, you have no worries about bad weather. There may be a fee to use this type of location, so make sure you check into that ahead of time.

Next, the invitations or advertising for the BBQ. If you have a local club, you will want to contact everyone to help spread the word. Then the internet message boards, post the information and advertise the event. The more players you can reach the better, so post on as many web boards as you can. If your BBQ is part of a major contest, ask to advertise the BBQ everywhere the contest is advertised (ie. radio, posters, TV spots etc) You might even consider building a web page with all of the pertinent information about what will be happening at the BBQ. Be sure to ask for RSVP's. It is important to get a general idea of how many people will show up. When I planned the MWR BBQ, I originally thought we would get about 20-30 people....but in the end, over 70 people attended. Because I requested RSVP, I knew ahead of time, and was able to make sure I had enough space, food and drinks for everyone.



**Joe
Mitchell**

Within the past couple of years, it occurred to me that there is very little in the way of the history of the yo-yo available. If you're lucky enough to find a copy of George Malko's *The One and Only Yo-Yo Book*, you get a pretty good history of the yo-yo up until 1978. Valerie Oliver has written a good history of the yo-yo article that is available on the web, both at our site (www.ayya.net) and also on Spintastics site (www.spintastics.com), and *Lucky's Collector's Guide to 20th Century Yo-Yos* has some good company related history in it. Tommy Smothers yo-yo video, *YoYo Tricks* has a small bit at the end of the video that features Barney Akers, Harvey Lowe, Dale Myrberg and Bob Rule (available at www.smothersbrothers.com) and a short documentary featuring Former Duncan demonstrator Nemo Concepcion in 1978 is available at www.der.org. Outside of that, there is not much to choose from.



**Nathan
Crissey**

Welcome all to Nathan's first ever column in the AYYA newsletter. I figured I should start out by introducing myself, so here we go. I'm a recent graduate of Ygnacio Valley High School in Concord, CA. Next fall I will be attending the University of Washington in Seattle as an engineering major. I enjoy quiet dinners for two, sunsets, and long walks on the beach, oh wait sorry, wrong column. I started yo-yoing during the boom period of late 1998. I credit my continuing involvement to the online community and the Spin Doctors, both of whom have continually inspired me to keep honing my skills. My favorite freestyles are Steve Brown's from BAC 2000 and 2001, Rob Reeves from BAC 2003, and Brent Dellinger's National Championship winning performance in 2002. I am still an active competitor in the Single A division but find myself falling behind a lot of the newer players. My glorious hopes of championships lie within the AP division, where I am a finalist this year.

Now to get a little more serious. It has been

Recording For Posterity

Anyhow, while thinking about this, I began thinking that compiling an oral history of yo-yoing would be something worthwhile. Why oral history? Oral history is more personal than written history. You get to hear the sound of the person's voice. You get to hear their history in their words. Emotions frequently shine through the discussion. It's a more interactive experience than just reading about the subject.

Many of the original demonstrators are still around, but they're getting old fast. In pursuing this line of thought, I went out and purchased a recorder you can attach to a telephone and started making a list of those who I would like to talk to. The list started with Donald Duncan Jr. I started making up some questions to ask him, and sent him an e-mail asking if it would be ok to call him for an interview. He wrote back that he would be happy to talk to me, but he and Donna would be going out of town for a couple weeks and that I could call him after they got back. Tragically, they never did get back from that trip. On their way home, both Don and Donna were killed in a single-car accident.

This event underscores how important it is to talk to some of the legends of yo-yoing now. No one of us has any idea how long we'll be on this planet, so if we're gonna act, we should act sooner than later. If you're interested in helping gather oral history of yo-yoing, please contact me!

I scheduled an interview with the last man on the Duncan payroll before it was closed - Bob Rule. Bob met me at the World Yo-Yo Championships and we spoke for 15-20 minutes while a video tape was running. I appreciate Bob's willingness to meet with me and bear it while I tried to learn, on the fly, how to interview someone! Look for the interview to run in a coming issue of the AYYA Newsletter.

In the coming months and years, I will be contacting people who can contribute to my oral history of yo-yoing. If anyone has any suggestions on who I should speak to, or knows someone who would be willing to talk to me about yo-yoing and it's history, please e-mail me at joe@mitchells.com.

Let's Do the Time Warp Again

my observation that many freestyles nowadays completely neglect the performance aspect. To me, this makes them less interesting to watch. When I say performance I don't necessarily mean running around while wearing sequins (although that can work). Performing to me is about making a connection with the audience; see my favorite freestyles for what I feel are good examples. Also, I feel that a lot of players are afraid to stand out. What I say is don't worry about your "too cool" image. Have fun, step outside the box, and let the audience see you are having fun. If more people did this I believe that yo-yoing would be more enjoyable to watch for both players and casual observers alike.

YoYoTIMES

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Unkle Steve's Happy Fun Corner

I've lived the kind of life that seems almost completely inundated with regrets. I should have done this, I should not have done that; if only I had said this, if only I hadn't said that. But looking back there are very few things that I regret as much as not getting to know Don Duncan Jr., and his wife Donna, better.

I could write pages about Don's actual history. I could condense his life into a bunch of media-friendly bulletpoints, footnotes waiting to happen. I could easily give you a Fisher-Price eulogy; bland, poignant, easy to swallow. The children's Tylenol version of a man's life. But to do that would be a disservice to Don, and it wouldn't even come close to relaying what an amazing and complex man he was, what a remarkable life he led, and what a giant shadow his father left for him to live under.

I've got to be honest, I always felt incredibly uncomfortable around Don. Guys like Bob Rule, Dale Oliver, Tommy Smothers...I can hang out with them, swap war stories about being on the road, and be completely relaxed. They did what I'm doing, for the most part, and we can relate to each other on that level. We're players, we're performers, we're demon-

strators. We are Yo-Yo Men. But Don was another story...he was The Guy. Don was there when an empire was built, Don ran it, Don lost it, he started another one with what is arguably one of the best yo-yos ever designed, and lost that one too. How could I relate to that? He had seen and done more than I even feel I have a right to talk about. He was a legend who one evening sat across the table from me in Chico, California and ate a plate of spaghetti.

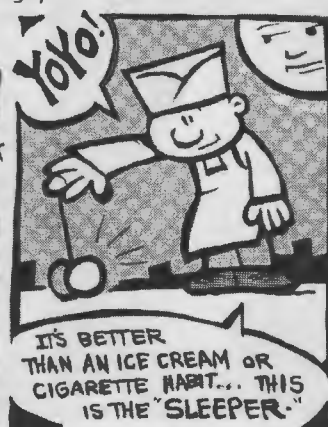
I spent the bulk of that dinner staring nervously across the table, unable to really talk to him. I remember one time he called me at the office to see about getting some ProYos. I answered the phone as I usually do..." Duncan Toys, this is Steve." When the voice on the other end said "Hello Steve, this is Don Duncan" I just froze. I felt like a fool. I felt like I was falsely laying claim to something that wasn't mine, like I'd just been caught sitting in the bosses chair and pretending to talk on his phone. I stammered and stuttered and when he politely inquired about buying a few boxes of ProYos, I got his address and had them sent to him, and paid for them myself. How could I charge Don Duncan for a couple boxes of ProYos???? The idea seemed so absurd, so empty, so wrong.

I wish I had gotten past that, that I had been able to get over my own insecurities and my own feelings that I don't deserve any of what I've got. I wish I had been able to do that, so that I could have gotten to know him better. A huge part of the history of what I am doing with my life is now gone forever, and I could barely work up the nerve to talk to him when he was sitting five feet away from me.

I regret that more than anything else in my life. Past, present, or future, nothing could compare to the hollow spot in my heart where memories of Don Duncan Jr. should reside. There is only regret there; cowardice, insecurity, and regret.

Thank you Don. I wish I'd had the nerve to say it to you when I had the chance, but thank you.

MR. YODEL by John Higby



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2003 NYYL Regional Results

Final results from the 2003 National Yo-Yo League Regionals. Aside from the title of Regional Champion, the winners each won a slot in the finals at Nationals and also a two night stay at the Chico Holiday Inn.

Region 1 - Northeast (NY, CT, MA, RI, VT, NH & ME)

A - Alex Lozyniak, West Springfield, Mass.
AA - No qualifier

Region 5 - Mid-West (WI, MN, ND, SD, MT, WY, NE, IA, IL)

A - Jason Kalpin, Harris, Minnesota
AA - Paul Yath, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Region 9 - Hawaii Pacific (Hawaii & Alaska)

A - Yuuki Spencer, Honolulu, Hawaii
AA - Joseph Harris, Honolulu, Hawaii

Region 2 - Mid-Atlantic (VA, NJ, DE, MD, Eastern PA)

A - Justin Weber, Newark, Delaware
AA - Shane Karan, Millville, New Jersey

Region 6 - Mid-America (AR, OK, TX, MO, KS, CO, NM)

A - Jesse Garcia
AA - Tyler Boshears

Region 3 - Southeast (FL, GA, SC, NC, MS, AL & LA)

A - Steven Kaiser, Baton Rouge, Louisiana
AA - Masahiro Tanikawa, Summerville, SC

Region 7 - Northwest (Northern CA, Northern NV, UT, WA, OR, ID)

A - Johnnie DelValle, San Ramone, California
AA - Paul Han, San Jose, California

Region 4 - Mid-East (OH, IN, MI, KY, TN, WV, Western PA)

A - Peter Stevens
AA - Rob Kitts

Region 8 - Southwest (AZ, Southern CA, Southern NV)

A - John Huber, Phoenix, Arizona
AA - Patrick Mitchell, Westminster, California



Duncan (cont)

Don, a charter member of the AYYA, was nominated for the AYYA Hall-of-Fame again this year. His father, along with his first-cousin Barney Akers and Pedro Flores were the inaugural inductees to the AYYA Hall-Of-Fame. Commenting just weeks before his death on the three, Duncan said, "I was very pleased and thought those elected were the right ones to elect first!"

Don Jr. was the former president of the Duncan Yo-Yo Company founded by his father, Donald Duncan Sr. Don Jr. took over the firm from his father in 1957, and along with his brother Jack, led the Duncan Corporation, and the classic yo-yo into a toy sales frenzy unlike anything the world had seen before.

The British Association of Toy Retailers declared that this was the biggest craze of the 20th century—a much bigger prototype of later fads like Furby and Cabbage Patch dolls.

Don Duncan and his team of marketers made a discovery in 1959 that defined the modern toy industry: TV sells. Since the 1930's Duncan had sent demonstrators into towns to teach and promote yo-yoing at corner stores and other gathering places for kids. But times were changing and the live demonstrator program was becoming too cost prohibitive. As Americans migrated to the suburbs, the kids were more spread out. This meant that fewer kids were hanging out at any given store and that yo-yo demonstrators would have to travel by car rather than mass transit, increasing costs. It also meant that kids had discovered a new pastime: watching television at home. Donald Duncan Jr. turned these negatives into a positive, creating a campaign of TV advertising that changed American business forever.

His test bed for this new way of advertising was Pittsburgh, PA. Traditionally yo-yo campaigns in that city grossed \$20,000 in sales. But then the TV ads came "and this time our sales went up to \$100,000" said Donald Duncan Jr. in 1978. "Everything clicked marketing-wise. We created an unbelievable demand for yo-yos as sales went from \$1,715,000 in 1961 to \$6,838,000 in 1962! And in 1962 I estimate that even at that volume we only supplied half the demand."

Strangely, this craze was also the doom of the Duncan Corporation, and caused the family to lose control of the firm that bears their name. Don Duncan Jr. explained it, "Our big mistake was in overextending ourselves to increase production because with growth more capital is needed, and without outside capital you begin to borrow, first on the plant, then on the accounts receivable, et cetera." The company went broke trying to fill the unprecedented orders for their product.

This was compounded by the realities of making wooden yo-yos. Making a yo-yo was a six-month process, including air and kiln drying the wood. The increased demand meant that they had to buy premium hardwood, as their normal supplies were depleted. Donald Duncan Jr explained, "from 1961 to 1963, to acquire additional hard maple to meet the sales demands, the company paid premium prices to divert supplies to our need, at an additional premium to us of about \$100,000."

It was around this time they developed a plastic yo-yo, the classic Duncan Imperial, still in production today. Plastic had a great advantage: production times dropped from six months to two weeks. But the conversion had only just begun.

To complicate matters, the Royal Top Company challenged Duncan's trademark on the word "Yo-Yo." Since 1927, Duncan had held the exclusive rights to the Yo-yo name and competitors were forced to describe their products as "return tops" or "bandelores." But in a landmark case, the judge found that "Yo-Yo" had become the common name for the item and struck down Duncan's trademark, enabling every toy company on earth to start advertising "yo-yos" just as Duncan's TV ads created a nationwide fever for the toys. Duncan's market-share shrank as other companies jumped into the fray. Duncan had managed to sell

ProYo, blazing the path to the modern yo-yo market. His ProYo was years ahead of anything else, featuring a flywheel design with the weight concentrated on the yo-yo's outside edge for longer spinning. Using a ProYo, professional player Dale Oliver doubled the existing record for spin time with a fixed axle yo-yo, making a throw that spun for 51 seconds. In addition, the ProYo was designed to be taken apart, so that players could remove string knots and service the yo-yo's axle. In the years since, yo-yo designers have piled on technological innovations like ball bearings and yo-yos made of aircraft aluminum, but all modern performance yo-yos emulate the ProYo's rim-weighted shape and take-apart design. Today, more than 20 firms profitably compete for what is much more than "10 percent" yo-yo players that Don Duncan designed his high-performance yo-yo for.

This technology shift allowed more advanced, and more difficult tricks to be created, and was one of the elements that started the mini-boom of the 1980's led by ProYo user Tommy Smothers.

Then Donald Duncan Jr. changed the rules again. While other firms were running television ads, he decided to bring back the professional demonstrator. Don learned through the last craze that television ads sell yo-yos, but without instruction kids just buy yo-yos, they don't use them as they don't know how. Nothing can beat a live instructor. If you teach a child how to yo-yo, he won't just buy one yo-yo, he'll buy several. This was felt by Donald Duncan Jr. as the key to success. He also knew that local public schools on tight budgets were looking for cost effective extra curricular programs that were family oriented. He and his head demonstrator Dale Oliver tied both of these ideas together and produced a school program that over the next twenty years has been teaching children yo-yoing in schools as a school fund-raiser. This is directly responsible to the rapid growth of yo-yoing through the 80's and 90's that has made it the sport it is now. Today there are demonstrators all over the country teaching yo-yoing in schools full time. These programs can all be traced back to Playmaxx and the ProYo.



Donald F. Duncan Jr. 1927 - 2003

In 1998, Don Duncan sold his interest in Playmaxx, the company manufacturing the ProYo, and retired.

In 2001, a strange repetition of history took place. Playmaxx had overextended its credit to meet production during the craze of 1998/1999 and was sold in turn to the Flambeau Products Corporation, bringing the Duncan and ProYo lines together under one manufacturer. To commemorate the 75th Anniversary of Duncan, the company is reintroducing the line of wooden and plastic Duncan Yo-Yos that Donald Duncan Jr. made famous in the 1960's. Flambeau Products also produces new high-tech Duncan Yo-Yos that have inspired whole new styles of performance.

A Memorial Service was held for Don and Donna Duncan in Bartlesville, Oklahoma on Saturday, August 23 at the Price Tower.

Reaction throughout the yo-yo community was swift. Bob Baybrook, yo-yo notable as well as father of former National & World Champion Jennifer Baybrook had this to say about Mr. Duncan,

"Mr. Duncan was a true Gentleman's Gentleman, he loved to talk about history, especially the history of his Family.

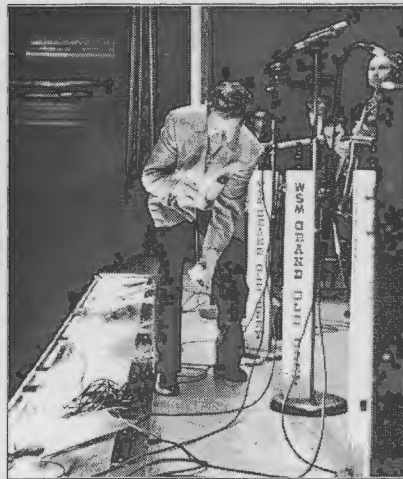
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US Postal Service Honors Roy Acuff with Stamp.

Sure, some people might know him as the "King of Country Music," but we know Roy Acuff as one of the most famous yo-yoers ever. Acuff made yo-yo history on March 16, 1974 when he attempted to teach President Nixon to yo-yo on stage during the dedication of the new Grand Ole Opry building. Under pressure due to the Watergate scandal, Nixon made his famous statement of "I'll stay here and try to learn how to use the yo-yo, and you go and be president, Roy" and resigned just five months later. He signed the yo-yo he used on stage and gave it back to Acuff. It sold at his estate auction for \$16,029, making it the highest known price for the sale of a yo-yo. The US Postal Service honored Acuff with his own stamp, which was issued on September 13, 2003. AYYA Board Member Jim Pankey was an invited performer at the live tribute show at the Grand Ole Opry. Pankey yo-yoed on stage as a tribute to Acuff.



Country Legend Roy Acuff shows President Richard Nixon the finer points of yoyoing on stage at the Grand Ole Opry in March of 1974.



An undated photo shows Acuff yoyoing on stage at the Opry.



Duncan (cont)

The Duncan Parking Meter was the first of it's kind, it came about his mother owning a corner store with a parking lot behind the store, people use to park in there store parking area all the time, so one day Don put out a coffee can and put a slit in it to put a penny the penny slid down and a flag on a arm came up.

He was full of stories like this he was the type of person that you sit and listen to all day long, to hear him talk in a low quiet voice, he talk about how his Dad and William Hearst the news paper magnet got together when no one was buying yo-yos and newspapers but they came up with the idea of giving away a yo-yo with every news paper for a day, and it worked [for] both Companies, [they] became known around the world, Don Duncan and the yoyo and Randolph Hearst and the San Francisco newspaper. [One] other story was how Mr. Duncan wanted maple syrup and he tried squeezing Maple logs they had brought in for yoyos in Luck, Wisconsin, he was unable to get the syrup and it was not until he came to Vermont that he finally saw and learned he to get Maple syrup."

Tom & JoAnne Radovan from Royal Yo-Yo also expressed their reflections on Don Duncan.

"Tom & I wish to express our sympathy to the Duncan family. Don was a wonderful man, he and dad were good friends. They often spoke over the phone. He and Don considered doing a joint venture in the mid 70's. Dad visited him in Arizona several times in the early 1980's. They had a longtime friendship. Tom & I thought very highly of Don. Perhaps the public thought that there was some kind of animosity between the two, this is far from the truth. We liked Don very much."

A part of the Duncan family yo-yo collection, known as 'The Yozeum' is still on display in Oklahoma City.

In lieu of flowers donations can be sent to The Don Duncan Memorial Fund, Box 3548, Chatsworth, Ca. 91311. The money will be used to promote something in the Yo-Yo World. Cards can be sent to the same address.

The family expressed their appreciation for all the kind thoughts and prayers for their parents.

This article was written primarily by Greg Cohen.



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Write for our complete catalog of yo-yoing and juggling supplies

**1-800-YoYo-Guy
www.yoyoguy.com**

Going, Going, Gone!

YoYos are popular items on online auction houses like ebay. Here's a few items of interest that have recently been auctioned off. Lucky # refers to the reference number of that item from *Lucky's Collectors Guide to 20th Century Yo-Yos*.



Duncan Wood Butterfly

Duncan Wood Butterfly still in original packaging. Lucky #331. This was the standard wood butterfly produced from 1958 until 1965. This went for exactly \$200 on ebay in May of 2003. Lucky's value in 1999 was listed at \$38.



This carved Duncan Big 'G' Tournament with paper label (Lucky #491) in pristine condition went for \$338 on ebay in January of 2004. The label featured blue and black lettering and the yo-yo is red with a black stripe. According to Lucky's Guide, these were among the earliest produced and go for more than the later, all black lettering models. These carved yo-yos generally came from store appearances by travelling Duncan pros. The carvings usually add to the value of the yo-yo. Lucky's 1999 value on this was \$70.



This Cheerio trophy was given to the winner of a 1957 contest in Kitchener, Canada. The trophy is inscribed with CKCO - TV Channel 13. Little did that winner suspect it would sell for \$620 on ebay in November, 2003.

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Yo-Yos

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To 20th Century Yo-Yos is the
most comprehensive guide available to yo-yo collectors.

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Southwest Regionals - July 13, 2003



Single A top three John Huber, Jason Lee and Jeremiah Donofrio

SWR-03



Left: Girls dig yoyoers!

Right: AAA legend Mark McBride.

All photos courtesy Golden Apple Comics.



Above: Evan Nagao Right: Patrick Mitchell Below: Matt Harlow

Above: AA Final four - Patrick Mitchell, John Ando, Adam Dennehy & Sam Genchi

Below: Felix Avellana

Left: Loop Ladder winners Evan Nagao, Grant Chapman & Sam Lopez





Yo'ers Forum

My name is Susen. I am writing to you to find out if a yoyo I have. It may or may not be of any value.

I grew up in Wisconsin. Graduated from Luck, which at the time was known as the Duncan Yoyo capitol of the world.

My Grandmother used to walk the rail tracks around the shop and would often bring yoyos to us that were fallen off the boxcars.

Well as most toys go we did not keep most of them, however I do have one special one, never been played with much less had a string on it. It is an original, unfinished, made out of maple but what makes it special is that on each side in the center the grain is shaped like an acorn. I will enclose a picture.

Also my family used to make records and I have one particular one of my neighbor being interviewed about the yoyo factory coming to down. It is quite interesting to listen to.

If you have no interest in any of this I will certainly understand, and will continue to cherish my memories.

Sincerely, Susen

Susen,

Thanks for the letter. The yo-yo pictured is very interesting. The design on it does look like an acorn!! Most older Duncan wooden yo-yos maintain a value based on a couple variables.

Several of the more important include the quality of the paint on the yo-yo, and the seal that was stamped on the yo-yo.

The record sounds interesting as well. I am always interested in yo-yo history. There hasn't been much published on the history of the yo-yo.

Joe Mitchell

Hello again Joe,

I do understand about the paint etc. I am not sure why the yoyo in the first pictures never got painted. Perhaps they felt it was flawed because of the grain of the wood.

As far as the time period, I cannot give you an exact date, however my parents were married in 1951 and my Mothers family did interviews with my Father and his friends and neighbors prior to the wedding. Why I am not sure, I think to see if he was worthy of her hand, who knows. Both my parents are no gone. I guess I could ask my cousin.

Anyway, this would be the time Duncan was thinking about moving to Luck. I do know the daughter of the man on the record and her family. She summers in Luck still. I suppose I could learn more from her. She is the one who gave my family the Duncan Collectors Chests. Duncan changed our small town and we were sad when it left.

Here are a few more pictures for you entertainment. Hope you enjoy, and thank you for your interest. To be perfectly honest, I really did not expect any response.



Dear AYYA,

I am interested in having a yo yo contest in the school I teach in. Many students are interested in the yo yo. I was wondering how to organize this - there has never been anything like this here at school. If possible could I get some info...Ray

Hi Ray,

We would be happy to help you out in planning a yo-yo contest. The most basic contests generally include a list of 10 tricks. The players get two chances to perform the trick. If they do it correctly on the first chance, they get 5 points. If they do it correctly on the second chance, they get 3 points. If they miss the trick on both attempts, they get no points. After that, the person with the most points wins. In case of a tie, there is a tiebreaker trick - which should be a little more challenging.

You can see some suggested lists on our website <http://ayya.net/tricks.html>

As far as running a contest goes, it's similar to other contests for this age group. You can solicit prizes from yo-yo manufacturers.. These companies will generally support many (not all) contests. If you submit a trick list and some details about the contest (date, time, etc), the AYYA will generally sanction most contests that request sanctioning. With AYYA sanctioning, we will provide prize patches to be awarded at your contest.

I would post flyers advertising the date and location of the contest, send out press releases to the local media, etc - you never know, they might show up.

Hi,

My name is Eric Anderson, I'm a AYYA member, (as a matter of fact, I just renewed this morning ((another year, and a new yo-yo!)) it doesn't get any better than this). Would it be possible to get our club listed in the Yo-Yo Club section of the AYYA Newsletter? I started it in 2000, and it's still going! The average attendance is five to ten kids, and sometimes Bill Michaels, (I strongly suspect that he beats me in the age category). The last meeting we had an elderly couple attend, the fellow was a self described "fly fisherman". He asked a lot of really in depth questions, and drew some parallels between the skills of fly fishing, and what he felt was in common with yoing. We may see him back, his latter questions were what we preferred in yo's, and where to get them.

We're also interested in any information available in the organization of contests. Some of the members/kids have asked why we can't have a competition, I can't think of any reason why not. I told them that I'd see about finding some info.

Thanks ;^)

Eric Anderson

Hey Eric, We do have a list of suggested tricks for a contest on our webpage at:

<http://ayya.net/tricks.html>

And suggested rules for the contest here:

<http://ayya.net/rules.html>

I am sure you are familiar with the basics of contests. If you would plan to hold a freestyle portion of the contest, I would suggest getting an additional judge as it can be tricky to use just one for a freestyle.

It can't hurt to get someone like Brett Outchunis (he's kinda close to you) to run the contest - he's a good guy and is very personable. If you wanted to contact him, you can reach him at (508) 295-1446.

If you get a trick list together and some rules, you can e-mail them to Dave Schulte at <dave@dazzlingdave.com> and request sanctioning from the AYYA. Once we grant sanctioning (I can't remember when we haven't!), the AYYA will provide some patches for prizes (3 sets of 1st, 2nd & 3rd place patches).

Please do not hesitate to contact me or any of the other Board Members if you have any questions. Thanks!

Joe Mitchell

I'm a beginner to "yo-yoing" and I was wondering if you could recommend a good yo-yo that could put down some "serious" sleeper times. The guys at the office have one that has 4-bearings in it and I would like to get something that could beat it. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks, Harry Wolle

Harry,

Thanks for the e-mail. 4 Bearings?? I have never heard of a yo-yo with 4 ball bearings on it. Spintastics (a yoyo company) came out with one with two ball-bearings...also, I doubt more ball bearings would increase spin time much - it seems to me that it would increase friction...plus, the string will only rest on at most 2 bearings at once, so the others would seem to serve no real purpose...

As far as a yoyo for long sleep times - YoYoJam makes the MegaSpin Faktor2 that is used by the current recordholder for sleep time - nearly 15 minutes on a single throw! It runs about \$70. The important factors to consider for sleep time are:

- - weight of the yoyo - the heavier, the longer the sleep time
- - rim weight - the further the weight is from the center of the yoyo, the longer spins you will get
- - bearing - the Mega Spin Faktor has a ceramic ball-bearing, the supposedly allows for longer sleeping times
- - dry the ball bearing - kids soak the bearings in lighter fluid to dry the bearing of any lube in it. The lube acts to protect the bearing from damage, but also increases the drag on the bearing. You know the bearing is nice and dry if it is really loud!! Good Luck!

AYYA Board Votes

On 3/16/03, Dick Stohr made the following motion,

“The due date for the AYYA Board of Directors ballots for election for 2003 be established as March 31, 2003.”

Jason Parrish seconded the motion
Dave Schulte voted yes
Dick Stohr voted yes
Joe Mitchell voted yes
Jim Pankey voted yes
Doc Pop voted yes
Jason Parrish voted yes

The motion passes unanimously.

On 4/28/03, Joe Mitchell made the following motion:

I make a motion to renew
www.nationalyoyoday.com and
www.yoyohalloffame.org for the period of
one year at a total cost to the AYYA of
\$40.

Dave Schulte seconded the motion

Dave Schulte voted yes
Joe Mitchell voted yes
Jim Pankey voted yes
Dick Stohr voted yes
Jason Parrish voted yes
Doc Pop voted yes

Motion carried unanimously

One June 13, 2003, Nathan Crissey made the following motion:

I motion and vote yes to make regenerated trapezes, consecutive eli hops, and consecutive whip catches official AYYA World Records.

Jim Pankey seconded the motion and voted yes
Nathan Crissey voted yes
Jason Parrish voted yes
Joe Mitchell voted yes
Dave Schulte voted yes

Dick Stohr voted a conditional yes, based on approval by AYYA Records Chairman Lucky Meisenheimer
Doc Pop did not vote

Motion passes, 5 yes votes

Board of Directors Election Results

Nathan Crissey- 12
Jim Pankey - 14
Brian Roberts (Doc Pop)- 13
Dick Stohr- 12

Presidential vote

Joe Mitchell ran unopposed and was reelected for another term

Yo-Yo Clubs

Clubs come and clubs go...to be safe, check with the contact person listed before you show up. If you would like your club listed, please contact us at: jmitch@mitchells.com or (302) 798-8171 with your club info.

CALIFORNIA

Berkeley, California

The Spin Doctors Yo-Yo Club! We usually meet in Sproul Plaza, on the first Saturday of each month at 2 P.M., at the end of Telegraph Ave. in Berkeley, right at the beginning of campus. Club is free! Please contact Dave Capurro at yoyopro@tsoft.com and I will add you to our club email list, where I announce club meetings.

Mission Statement:

We are a Yo-Yo Club. We don't Yo-Yo for trophies, or prizes, or for material things. We Yo-Yo Because we enjoy it, and it makes us feel good. Nobody is better and nobody is worse. Everybody is good in different ways. If somebody needs help, we help them. If you need help, ask for it. Yo-Yoing takes LOTS of practice, so be patient and don't get discouraged. We are here to help :) Thank You, and Just Say Yo!

Lakewood, California

Yo-Yo classes in Lakewood, CA. The Southern California String Burners (formerly known as Team Lakewood) Yo-Yo classes are every Wed. 5:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M. and Sat. Noon - 2:00 P.M. at Mayfair Park, 5720 Clark Ave., Lakewood. We offer several different programs, Spintastics Yo-Yo and Spin Top Patch program, Diabolo program and more. So. Cal. String Burners Team members are qualified instructors, competes, professional demonstrations, performers. We have a great time hanging out with all the yo-ers, sharing and learning new tricks.

Los Angeles, California

The Golden Apple Yo-Yo Corps meets the first Sunday of every month from noon to 3PM at the NCJW Building (543 No. Fairfax) one block south of Melrose Ave (at Clinton St.) in West Hollywood. However, since the club has a very active performance schedule of parties, festivals and similar events which sometimes conflict, attendees should check with Bill Liebowitz at the Golden Apple Store (323) 658-6047 or check the website www.goldenapplecomics.com for up to date information. Meetings generally include team business, practice and group performance rehearsals. There is always time available for new yo-yoers at all skill levels. Team members range in age from 10-60 years old with several families as members. All skill levels are represented and several members hold regional, state and national titles. The team has been subject of numerous television, newspaper and magazine stories and have been featured characters in Archie Comic Books during 2000 and 2001.

Contact: Bill Liebowitz c/o
Golden Apple Comics
7711 Melrose Ave.

Los Angeles, CA 90046

Ph. (323) 658-6047

Fax (323) 852-9621

e-mail: billL@goldenapplecomics.com

San Joaquin Valley, California

Team Zero Gravity meets on the first monday of every month at the First and Bullard Round Table pizza from 7:00 to 8:30. We were established in 1999 and try to attend all contests and events in our area. For more info contact Rick Kroytz at 559 224-3937 or [<Madyoer@hotmail.com>](mailto:Madyoer@hotmail.com)

CONNECTICUT

Montville, Connecticut

Connecticut Yo-Yo Club (CYYC) Meets on the second Saturday of every month from 1 to 3 PM, at the Fair Oaks School in Montville, CT. Yo-Yos, Tops, Juggling, Luna-Stix, fun stuff.

No fees, new members welcome all the time!
Contact Eric Anderson for information:
ercamax@juno.com/ 860-848-4034.

DELAWARE

Wilmington, Delaware

Mitchell's Trains, Toys and Hobbies hosts a yo-yo club that meets Mondays at 6 P.M. and Fridays at 4., plus every fourth Saturday There is no charge, bring your own yo-yo and join in! Complete your Team Spintastics patches! Or just trade tricks and learn new ones. Contact Joe Mitchell at (302) 652-3258 or e-mail at: jmitch@mitchells.com. Also, check our webpage at: <http://mitchells.com/yoyo> for most up-to-date info on meetings, special events, contests, etc.

FLORIDA

Tallahassee, Florida

T-Town Yo-Yo Posse

Meets every Saturday, Noon - ???

Yo-Yos, Spin Tops, Juggling, Card Tricks, Diabolos, and Duck Feedings.

Contact Lao at Lofty Pursuits for more info
850-521-0091

HAWAII

Hilo, Hawaii

Pro Spinners Hilo meets at Prince Kuhio Plaza every Thursday from 6:30 to 8:30 P.M. We get choke kids and have "full on" fun. Email David Stringfinger Sellars at: kupukupu@ilhawaii.net

IOWA

If you live in central Iowa, there is a club trying to start. Contact Seth Peterson at (515) 465-4278 or by e-mail at yo-star-wing@juno.com

KANSAS

Salina, Kansas

The Up and Down Yo-Yo Club meets every Monday from 6-8 p.m. at the Jerry Ivey Park in Salina, Kansas. There will be instruction, contests, tips and more. For more information, contact Tim Bartz at (785) 820-8167 or dewman77@yahoo.com

Wichita

River City Spinners Yo-Yo club, home of Team Tornado, meets every Monday night from 7:00 - 9 at the Wichita Farm and Art Market, 835 E. 1st, Wichita, KS. When the weather is nice, we meet outside on the plaza. Otherwise, we meet on the 2nd floor of this building. 40+ members. We teach beginners - experts. Freestyle, team performances, preparation for contests, etc. At this time we just teach yo-yo's but some members are also learning top spinning. Contact information: Old Town General Store: 316-264-1420 anytime between 10:00 A.M. and 6:00 p.m. except Sundays: 12:00 - 5:00. E-mail: pm6272@aol.com.

KENTUCKY

Lexington, Kentucky

The Bluegrass Yo-Yo Club meets the last Sunday of the month from 2-4 P.M. at different library locations in Lexington. Membership is free and everyone is welcome with or without yo-yo. For meeting location information email Bill Mahan at wmmjr@lex.infi.net or call 1-888-SAY-YOYO (Toll-Free).

LOUISIANA

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

We are naming ourselves "The Cajun Spinners." We will meet at the Jones Creek Library on the third Thursday of each month at 6:30pm - 8:00pm. For more information, contact Larry Offner at bloffner@home.com or Jim Johnston at jimyoyo@premier.net

MARYLAND

Rockville, Maryland

Capital Spinners Yo-Yo Club meets the third Sunday of every month at the Bauer Community Center, 14625 Bauer Drive, Rockville, MD 20853 from 4-6 p.m. For Info: Mike Dion Graphics mdgrfx@aol.com or Greg "Yo-G" Beatty gobeatty@yahoo.com

Yo-Yo Clubs (cont)

MICHIGAN

Grand Haven, Michigan

There is a Pro-Spinners Yo-Yo Club held on Wednesdays from 6 - 7:30 p.m. in Grand Haven, MI. The club is held at the Mackinaw Kite Co, Grand Haven, MI, 106 Washington St. Grand Haven, MI 49417. Club participation is free of charge and open to everyone. Come learn tricks from pros, complete levels and earn prizes! For more info, visit the Mackinaw Kite Co. web page (www.mackite.com or www.yoyouniverse.com) or call (800) 622-4655 or (616) 846-7501. You can also e-mail info@mackinawkiteco.com for more information.

MINNESOTA

Twin Cities

Location: Burnsville, Chanhassen, Eden Prairie, Minneapolis, and Roseville

Twin Cities X-treme Spinners YoYo Clubs meet at 5 locations throughout the metro area - there is one or more near you!

Get the schedules, events, and links at our web site www.SpinCentral.net

Any club leader can be reached from our site at www.SpinCentral.net, or by telephone call the Elvin's at 952-431-3564.

MISSOURI

Kansas City

Team Mach Elite meets every other Thursday from 6:30 - 8 at Sheffield Family Life Center. For more information, contact Dan Compton at Plur143liquid@cs.com

Kansas City

SpinKC meetings are 3pm-7pm every Saturday at Oak Grove Park (weather permitting). There is a \$10 membership fee and yo-yos are available if you do not have one. Oak Grove Park is North Oak to 79th Terrace turn right into Oak Park High School go towards the back to the tennis courts there will be a concrete trail leading towards a big picnic area.

NEVADA

Reno/Sparks, NV

The Northern Nevada Neverthriving meets every Saturday at 11 pm at the library at the University of Nevada/Reno. Yo-Yo'ers, jugglers and all manner of object manipulators are welcome. Winter months, the meetings will be held at various locations. Contact Chuck Short at chuck@juggler.net and visit their website at www.neverthriving.com.

NORTH CAROLINA

Durham, NC

Carrington Yo Team
Carrington Yo Yo Club
Carrington Middle School
Durham NC
919 560-3916
willianm@dpsnc.net

Carolina Yoers
Kites Unlimited @ Northgate
Durham NC
919 286-6041

The Carrington team and club meet at school during the school day and participate in the events at Kites Unlimited @ Northgate.

The Carolina Yoers participate in the Yo Offs and Yo Festivals put on at Northgate Mall by Kites Unlimited. There are also clinics at the store. We try to have at least 2 events a year or more and they are not high competition but a gathering of yoer and challenges to see how far each yoer can get in a list of tricks and levels. Everyone teaches and help others get as far as they can. When we get to the hard tricks, the better yoers shine but also teach others how to do the hard tricks. We are looking for fun and sharing. Yoers come from as far as Va and from different areas in NC. We try to plan these events on Sundays so most people are off from work and are less tied up. Clinics are scheduled but at the moment none are planned but are in the works. We have had clinics on odd numbered Friday nights at the store/mall but have put those on hold at the moment to concentrate on the events.

OHIO

Hudson, Ohio

The Hudson Toy, Train & Hobby Yo-Yo Club meets the second Sunday of each month. If the weather is good, we meet on the "Green" across from the store in Hudson, Ohio. Call (330) 653-2997 for more info or e-mail at ejpickens@aol.com

OKLAHOMA

Lawton, Oklahoma

The Lawton Area Skill Toy Club meets every First and Third Tuesday of the month from 6:30-8:30 at the Lawton Public Library. The library is located at Forth and C Ave, Lawton, OK. All skill toys and juggling welcome. For more information, please contact John Hornbeck at yoyoguy69@hotmail.com

Tulsa, Oklahoma

STRINGS ATTACHED, Tulsa's only yo-yo club Ages 9-99, meets the 2nd Saturday of every month. Learn tricks, tips and watch instructional videos.

Log onto: www.stringsattached.fullspeed.to/ for times, locations and other information. Or call Steve at 918-408-3652.

OREGON

Corvallis, Oregon

The Corvallis Yo-Yo club (aka Team Yo-Mama) meets Saturdays from 1-3 p.m. Summertime: meets once a week. During the school year: meets every other week. For more information or directions, call (541) 754-5507 or email Daniel Blatt at [dcsplat@peak.org](mailto:<dcsplat@peak.org>)

PENNSYLVANIA

State College, Pennsylvania

The State College, PA Yo-Yo club meets 7-8 p.m. every other Thursday, call for current schedule. Yo-Yo Skill Award Programs available. Professional Yo-Yo maintenance, service and detailing during meetings. Club meets at Nittany Line Hobbies, North Atherton location, 1649 N. Atherton St., State College, PA 16801-1419. (888) 654-6229. www.nittanyline.com. For more information, contact Tarkin at tarkin@netzero.net

TENNESSEE

Madison

We meet every Saturday at Rivergate mall in Madison tn. near Nashville. the time is 12 noon to about 3 or 4. Everyone invited from beginner to pro...SEE YA THERE! For more info, contact Bobby Gray at bobbyG3386@aol.com

TEXAS

Dallas/Ft. Worth

The Lone Star Spinners Club meets twice monthly, usually on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month. Meetings are held from 11:00 am - 12:30 p.m. at the Grapevine Community Activity Center in Grapevine, Texas. Yo-yos, spin tops, diabolos and more! Check www.spintastics.com/lonestar.asp for club details and updates or email club founder Valerie Oliver at [lonestar@spintastics.com](mailto:<lonestar@spintastics.com>) for more information. Players, wanna-be-players, collectors, and spin-lovers of all ages are welcome. All are welcome and the best part, it's FREE!

Yo Yo club listings continued on page 28

Recent Contests

TKO
March 8, 2003
Stillwater, Ok

- A**
- Jesse Garcia
 - Eric Hesterman
 - Donal Wilson
- AA**
- John Ando
 - Eric Hesterman
 - Tyler Boshears

- Spin Top Freestyle**
- Miguel Correa
 - Art Taylor
 - John Hornbeck

- String ladder winners**
- | | |
|----------|------------------|
| 12-under | Jesse Aguiar |
| 13-20 | Mina Tanikawa |
| 21-34 | Steve Reczkowski |
| 35-up | Gani Macraig |
- *Gani Macraig Overall Winner

- Spin Top Freestyle**
- Miguel Correa
 - Felix avellana
 - Peter Samarin

- Region 7 Freestyle**
- Johnnie Delvalle
 - Augie Fash
 - Brandon Moreau

Southeast Regional YoYo competition
April 5, 2003
Tallahassee, Florida

8th Annual YoYo Convention
April 5-6, 2003
Burlington, Wisconsin

Bay Area Classic
May 3, 2003
San Mateo, California

- Single A**
- Johnnie DelValle (also won Nationals seed)
 - Brent Dellinger
 - Jesse Garcia
 - Yuuki Spencer
 - Eric Hesterman
 - Augie Fash
 - Brandon Moreau
 - Miguel Correa
 - Jake Maloney
 - Rob Reeves
 - Nathan Crissey
 - Felix Avellana
 - Kota Watanabe
 - Scott Coyle
 - Jack Ringca
 - David Melons
 - Paul Yath

- Double A**
- Paul Han (also won Nationals seed)
 - Rob Kitts
 - Paul Yath
 - Jake Maloney

Rocky Mountain Yo-Yo Championships
June 7, 2003
Denver, CO

The Z Games
6/08/2003
Northampton, Massachusetts

Mid-Atlantic Regionals
June 14, 2003
Wilmington, Delaware

A		
Place	Name	Score
1	Justin Weber	41
2	Mike Young	24
3	Jesse Reim	22
4	Brandon Meadows	20
4	Shane Karan	14
6	Max Cramer	8
7	Matt Kendall	3

AA		
Place	Name	Country Score
1	Shane Karan	13
2	Jesse Reim	0

For the second year in a row, Justin Weber and Shane Karan walked away with the top prizes and the titles of Mid-Atlantic Regional Champions for the A and AA Divisions. For the first year, State Champs were crowned in the following states:

Raleigh Booze - Delaware State Champion
Robert Kyte - Maryland State Champion
Shane Karan - New Jersey State Champion
Tom Connolly - Virginia State Champion

Mid West Regionals
June 21, 2003
Minneapolis, Minnesota

BY AYANNA McPHAIL
Pioneer Press

With techno music blaring, Paul Han waltzes across a stage, lies on his back, then pops up using a break-dance move — all while propelling two yo-yos in each hand. "Dude, that was clean man," said his friend Paul Yath.

For a \$5 registration fee, about 50 participants found themselves in yo-yo heaven at the sixth annual Midwest Regional Yo-Yo Championship on Saturday at the Mall of America.

The "yo-yoers" were judged on their skill level, performance and originality.

As they climbed the ladder in the competition, each trick became more difficult. Two mistakes meant elimination. Nearly everyone made it through such tricks as "walking the dog." It was not so easy with tricks such as "rock the baby," "pop 'n' fresh" and "iron whip."

But it was the freestyle part of the competition that had onlookers peering over railings three stories high while competitors had five minutes each to show their stuff.

National yo-yo master and world champion, Dazzling Dave Schulte, decided to start the competition because the Midwest did not have one. Parents traveled with their kids from places such as Michigan and Ohio for the contest. The yo-yo competitions have become a craze for some teenagers.

"It's a hobby and stress reliever. I used to be really hard core when I was younger, but now it's just for fun," said Han, 17, who flew in from San Jose, Calif., to compete. He won the AA freestyle division, in which competitors used two yo-yos.

Seven other winners were awarded a bag of prizes and medal at the end of the contest.

David Larson, 10, of Isanti did not place, but still had fun. He's been saving up his \$3 weekly allowance and practicing for the competition for two months.

"He only broke one light fixture" in the house while practicing, said mom Sandy Larson, who is pleased with her son's new interest. "It has really built his concentration. ... It's good for his self-confidence because once he masters the harder tricks, it just boosts him."

Money is usually lost putting on the competition, but Schulte does it because it is his passion and has a positive impact on kids.

"Yo-yos are not just a toy, they make you a better person," said Schulte. "It gives you self-esteem. It helps you become more creative."

Northeast Regional Yo-Yo Championships
June 28, 2003
Portland, Maine

A		
Place	Name	
1	Alex Lozyniak	West Springfield, Mass
2	Mark Montgomery	Falmouth, Mass
3	Justin Weber	Newark, Delaware

AA		
Place	Name	
1	Rob Kitts	Perrysburg, Ohio
2	Shane Karan	Millville, New Jersey

State Champions Crowned:
Dana Bennett - Maine State Champion
Brandon Meadows - New York State Champion
Grahame Wright - Vermont State Champion

New England Yo-Yo Championship
July 4, 2003
Portsmouth, New Hampshire

Hawaii State and Pacific Rim Competition
July 12, 2003
Honolulu, Hawaii

- | | | |
|-----|---------------|--------------|
| 1A: | Yuuki Spencer | Honolulu, HI |
| 2A: | Joseph Harris | Honolulu, HI |

Recent Events (cont)

Southwest Regionals July 13, 2003 Los Angeles, California

Single A

- 1st - John Huber
2nd - Jason Lee
3rd - Jeremiah Donofrio

Double A

- 1st - Patrick Mitchell
2nd - John Ando
3rd - Adam Dennehy
4th - Sam Genchi

Sport Ladder - combined

- 1st - Sam Lopez
2nd - Evan Nagao
3rd - Chase Puragaran

Sport Ladder - string

- 1st - Sam Lopez
2nd - Frank Milan
3rd - Chase Puragaran

Sport Ladder - Loop

- 1st - (tie) Evan Nagao/Grant Chapman
2nd - Sam Lopez

Frankenmuth River Place/ Champion Spinner Classic VI July 19, 2003

World Yo-Yo Contest August 1 - 3, 2003 Orlando, Florida

Counterweight Compulsories

Place	Name	Country	Score
1	Makoto Numagami	Japan	48
2	Shingo Terada	Japan	41
3	Rafael Matsunga	Brazil	39
3	Matt Schmidt	USA	39
3	Kenji Eto	Japan	39
4	Jack Ringca	USA	38
5	Miguel Correa	USA	33
6	Jan Marhauser	Germany	31
7	Tsubasa Onishi	Japan	29
8	Dennis Shatter	USA	27
9	Jake Maloney	USA	21

3A Compulsories

Place	Name	Country	Score
1	Yu Kawada	Japan	45
2	Daisuke Shimada	Japan	43
3	Paul Yath	USA	42
4	Hiroyasu Ishihara	Japan	41
5	Jun Aramaki	Japan	38
6	Maya Nakamura	Japan	35
7	Alex Ulrich	USA	25
8	Timothy Simco	USA	0

OS Compulsories

Place	Name	Country	Score
1	Atsushi Yamada	Japan	50
1	Shingo Terada	Japan	50
1	Jimmy Peng	USA	50
1	Yuki Nakabayashi	Japan	50
5	Tsubasa Onishi	Japan	48
5	Eiji Okuyama	Japan	48
5	Kenji Eto	Japan	48

6	Atsushi Sakata	Japan	46
7	Tomiyuki Watanabe	Japan	41
8	Jake Maloney	USA	35
9	Josey McCormick	USA	29
10	Takahiko Hasegawa	Japan	26
11	Eric Koloski	USA	15

A Compulsories

Place	Name	Country	Score
1	Justin Weber	USA	48
2	Hidemasa Semba	Japan	46
3	Hiroyuki Suzuki	Japan	45
4	Kota Watanabe	Japan	42
4	Brent Dellinger	USA	42
6	Omar Acosta	USA	41
7	Hiroyasu Ishihara	Japan	40
7	Tomonari Ishiguro	Japan	40
7	Yuuki Spencer	USA	40
10	Dennis Shatter	USA	39
10	Kentaro Kimura	Japan	39
12	Johnnie DelValle	USA	38
13	Alex Berenguel	USA	36
13	Jake Maloney	USA	36
15	Kensuke Goto	Japan	33
16	Eric Hesterman	USA	32
16	Mark Montgomery	USA	32
18	Andrew Conde	USA	31
18	Miguel Correa	USA	31
20	Andre Boulay	USA	28
21	Jan Marhauser	Germany	26
22	Rodrigo Yokota	Brazil	25
23	Eric Koloski	USA	23
23	Rob Kitts	USA	23
25	Jesse Garcia	USA	22
26	Jerry Yuan	USA	19
27	Tyler Boshears	USA	18
28	Jimmy Peng	USA	16
29	Brett Ferrante	USA	15
30	Shane Karan	USA	13
31	Grant Nichols	USA	10
31	Kyle Pearson	USA	10
31	Mitchell Kamisato	USA	10
34	Keith Dodd	USA	3
35	Alex Roy	USA	0

AA Compulsories

Place	Name	Country	Score
1	Koji Yokoyama	Japan	50
2	Shinji Saito	Japan	48
3	Hara Daichi	Japan	45
4	Masahiro Tanikawa	USA	44
5	Masafumi Azami	Japan	43
5	Singo Kawamura	Japan	43
5	Dave Geigle	Germany	43
8	Yukihiro Suzuki	Japan	41
9	Yutaro Kayusa	Japan	38
9	Patrick Mitchell	USA	38
11	John Ando	USA	36
12	Paul Han	USA	33
12	Masakaza Yamasaki	Japan	33
14	Rob Kitts	USA	16

A Freestyle Results

Place	Name	Country	Score
1	Johnnie DelValle	USA	97.44
2	Brent Dellinger	USA	80.07
3	Hiroyuki Suzuki	Japan	78.77
4	Yuuki Spencer	USA	71.73
5	Hidemasa Semba	Japan	70.41
6	Justin Weber	USA	69.37
7	Tomonari Ishiguro	Japan	68.74

8	Kota Watanabe	Japan	64.24
9	Hiroyasu Ishihara	Japan	55.49
10	Jake Maloney	USA	52.25
11	Kentaro Kimura	Japan	50.66
12	Omar Acosta	USA	45.80
13	Dennis Shatter	USA	45.49
14	Rodrigo Yokota	Brazil	40.12
15	Alex Berenguel	USA	32.87

AA Results

Place	Name	Country	Score
1	Shinji Saito	Japan	95.95
2	Koji Yokoyama	Japan	83.38
3	Yukihiro Suzuki	Japan	75.84
4	Masahiro Tanikawa	USA	74.62
5	Shingo Kawamura	Japan	65.66
6	Masakaza Yamasaki	Japan	56.16
7	Patrick Mitchell	USA	53.82
8	Hara Daichi	Japan	53.06
9	Dave Geigle	Germany	52.81
10	Paul Han	USA	49.13
11	John Ando	USA	45.59
12	Yutaro Kayusa	Japan	45.10
13	Masafumi Azami	Japan	43.81
14	Rob Kitts	USA	32.76

OS Results

Place	Name	Country	Score
1	Eiji Okuyama	Japan	95.72
2	Atsushi Yamada	Japan	76.26
3	Shingo Terada	Japan	73.09
4	Kenji Eto	Japan	64.10
5	Tsubasa Onishi	Japan	58.29
6	Yuki Nakabayashi	Japan	44.41
7	Jimmy Peng	USA	33.32

CW Results

Place	Name	Country	Score
1	Rafael Matsunga	Brazil	92.78
2	Makoto Numagami	Japan	70.41
3	Shingo Terada	Japan	66.62
4	Matt Schmidt	USA	58.00
5	Kenji Eto	Japan	43.30

3A Results

Place	Name	Country	Score
1	Daisuke Shimada	Japan	91.77
2	Jun Aramaki	Japan	89.20
3	Yu Kawada	Japan	60.46
4	Paul Yath	USA	36.38
5	Hiroyasu Ishihara	Japan	34.07

AP Division

Place	Name
1	Mark Montgomery
2	Tomiyuki Watanab
3	Dave Bazan
(the following is in no order)	
	Nathan Crissey
	Kenji Deomedes Eto
	Takahiko Hasegawa
	Tomonari Ishiguro (Black)
	Yu Kawada
	Hironori Mii
	Jack Ringca

Y3A Yomega World Yo-Yo Contest August 8 - 9, 2003 Las Vegas, Nevada

Recent Contests (cont)

Mid-East Regionals August 30, 2003 Hudson, Ohio

Single A

- 1 Peter Stevens
- 2 Rob Kitts
- 3 Dennis Shatter

Double A

- 1 Rob Kitts

Miguel Correa threw a 8 minute, 7 second sleeper with a new Buzz-On Element X.

Mid-America Regional September 7, 2003 Wichita, Kansas

Single A

- 1 Jesse Garcia (also won Nationals seed)
- 2 Brent Dellinger
- 3 Cody Taylor

Double A

- 1 Tyler Boshears (also won Nationals seed)

California State Yo-Yo Championship September 13, 2003 San Francisco, California

Single A Compulsories

- 1 David Mellons
- 2 Paul Han
- 3 Nathan Crissey
- 4 Augie Fash
- 5 Jon Kennedy
- 6 Scott Coyle

Single A Freestyle

- 1 Augie Fash
- 2 Paul Han
- 3 Nathan Crissey
- 4 Hironori Mii
- 5 David Mellons
- 6 Rob Reeves
- 7 Scott Coyle
- 8 Shane Lash
- 9 Evan Geller
- 10 Jon Kennedy
- 11 Charles Young

Double A Compulsories

- 1 Patrick Mitchell

Double A Freestyle

- 1 Patrick Mitchell
- 2 Paul Han
- 3 Jun Aramaki

Sports Ladder

- Overall Winner ... Gani Macaraig
45 & Older Gani Macaraig
30 - 45 Stupendous
17-29 Jon Kennedy
13-16 Jimmy Young
11-12 Andrew Walton
0-10 Charles Young

Northern Virginia Senior Olympics Lee District Park, Recreation Center September 18, 2003

National Yo-Yo Contest

Chico, California
October 4, 2003

1A Results

Place	Name, Age	Score
1	Johnnie DelValle	92.37
2	Yuuki Spencer	83.67
3	Brent Dellinger	71.17
4	Eric Hesterman	62.37
5	Andre Boulay	58.05
6	Jesse Garcia	57.82
7	Justin Weber	57.81
8	Alex Berenguel	54.11
9	Andrew Murray	51.36
10	Rob Kitts	42.97
11	Dennis Shatter	41.43
12	Alex Lozyniak	39.10
13	John Huber	37.11
14	Jesse Reim	36.72
15	David Mellons	30.39

1A Compulsory Scores

Place	Name, Age	Score
1	Eric Hesterman 16	43
2	Brent Dellinger 16	42
3	Justin Weber 16	40
4	Andrew Murray 17	38
5	Dennis Shatter 16	38
6	Johnnie DelValle 17	37
7	Jessie Reim 20	37
8	Yuuki Spencer 14	36
9	Alex Berenguel 14	36
10	Andre Boulay 18	36
11	David Mellons 16	34
12	Miguel Correa 17	34
13	Jake Maloney 14	33
14	Shane Karan 16	32
15	Michael O'Connell 11	31
16	Paul Han 17	29
17	Omar Acosta 14	28
18	Jarry Yuan 16	27
19	Eric Koloski 13	26
20	Rob Reeves 18	26
21	Tony North 22	26
22	Andrew Conde 15	25
23	Branden Moreau 16	25
24	Alex Lozyniak 16	21
25	Peter Stevens 11	21
26	Rob Kitts 17	20
27	Jesse Garcia 15	18
28	Jared Sodian 15	18
29	Augie Fash 15	15
30	Jimmy Peng 16	15
31	Daniel Blatt 13	13
32	Iakona Medeiros 16	13
33	Jason Mendoza 19	13
34	Shane Lash 18	11
35	John Huber 23	9
36	Gordi Morey 33	6
37	Joseph Harris 16	5
38	Sky Kiyabu 20	3
39	Torrey Larsen 11	3
40	Ambri Bizek 26	0
41	D.J. Peralta 21	0
42	Jack Ringca 25	0

43	Josh Schlichting 25	0
44	Jen Niles 30	0
45	Alex Ulrich 20	0
46	Sean Payne 19	0

2A Results

Place	Name	Score
1	Matt Harlow	92.15
2	Patrick Mitchell	90.95
3	Masahiro Tanikawa	87.64
4	Adam Dennehy	75.47
5	John Ando	70.99
6	Joseph Harris	69.91
7	Marcus Fiebka	67.92
8	Ryan Lai	39.51
9	Shane Karan	38.17
10	Rob Kitts	35.16
11	Paul Yath	34.12
12	Iakona Medeiros	33.24
13	Michael O'Connell	30.99
14	Ryan Finn	25.66
15	John Aaron Gould	23.12

2A Compulsory Scores

	Name, Age	Score
1	Adam Dennehy 17	50
2	John Ando 17	50
3	Masahiro Tanikawa 19	50
4	Joseph Harris 16	48
5	Matt Harlow 18	48
6	Marcus Fiebka 16	46
7	Patrick Mitchell 17	46
8	Ryan Lai 17	39
9	Shane Karan 16	36
10	Rob Kitts 17	34
11	Paul Yath 21	25
12	John Aaron Gould 18	21
13	Iakona Medeiros 16	20
14	Michael O'Connell 11	8
15	Ryan Finn 16	5
16	Kate Miller 27	0

German Masters Berlin, Germany November 15 - 16, 2003

A

1.	Jan Marhauser	Germany	174,75
2.	Dave Geigle	Germany	156,45
3.	Joe Greve	Germany	116,4
4.	Nicolai Frohse	Germany	106,15
5.	Felix Bachmair	Germany	86,5
6.	Yaniv Siegel	Netherlands	79,65
7.	Johannes Voggenthaler	Germany	75,9
8.	Stefan Birk	Germany	67,65
9.	Marius Berning	Germany	62,9
10.	Sebastian Berning	Germany	61
11.	Jan Dellmann	Germany	14,8
12.	Tom Joseph	USA	6,4
13.	Tobias-Leon Haecker	Germany	5,4
14.	Malte Fielers	Germany	5,2
15.	Robert A. Müller	Germany	5
16.	Nils Leßmann	Germany	-3,2
17.	Andres Pegam	Germany	-23,4

continued on page 28

Upcoming Events

BU Juggle Fest

Boston, Massachusetts
February 22, 2004

A juggling festival that might have some yoyoers hanging out. For more info, <http://people.bu.edu/buja/home.htm>

Juggle Maine-ia

Portland, Maine
March 27, 2004

Held at USM's Sullivan Gym from 10 am to 9 pm. Performances, Competition and Workshops with Maine's Best Jugglers! Want to be a part of Portland's first juggling festival? We would love to hear from you! You can also post your thoughts and ideas in our online juggling forum! Call 207-828-0911 or check www.Skytoyz.com for more information.

Southeast Regional Yo-Yo Contest

Tallahassee, Florida
April 2, 2004

For information on the contest, visit www.pd.net/seregional or e-mail infinite@pd.net.

Wisconsin State Contest/ 9th Annual Yo-Yo Convention

Burlington, Wisconsin
April 3-4, 2004

SAT: thousands of yo-yos on exhibit, meet collectors and celebrities and champions, informal demonstrations, videos, trading, sales; fun informal contests, claims-to-fame stories, original trick contest, oddest yo-yo contest, door prizes (pre-convention classes offered Sat.)

SUN: Eat Your Breakfast with the Champions, advanced trick workshops, the AYYA sanctioned Wisconsin State Yo-Yo Contest, shows, demonstrations of diabolos & paddle balls, door prizes, clowns & yo-yo contest, sales, meet yo-yo pros, world record attempt, quick classes, a bit of juggling here and there, and lots more

All Sunday events are at Karcher School Gym; Wainwright Av, between Pine & Perkins St. west of Hwy. 83 (Pine Street). Free parking in corner parking lot. The 9th annual Yo-Yo convention is presented by the non-profit Spinning Top Museum/ Teacher Place & Parent Resources 533 Milwaukee Ave (Hwy 36) downtown Burlington, WI 53105

For more information, call (262)-763-3946 or check www.topmuseum.org

Canada National Yoyo and Spin Top Championship 2004

Montreal, Canada
April 10, 2004

The 2004 Canada National Yoyo and Spin Top Championship will take place at the Centre des Loisirs Communautaires Lejeunesse in Montreal from 12 pm to 5 pm on April 10, 2004. Divisions include Sport, One-Hand Championship, A Spin Top Combat Division as well as a Spin Top Champion Division. \$2 donation will be asked at the door, the profits to go to the Canadian Alzheimer Society.

For more information, visit www.yoperation.com

BAC 2004

San Francisco, California
May 1, 2004

The 7th annual BAC will be held May 1, 2004 at Talbotts Toyland in San Mateo, California. Fly into SFO or you can fly into Oakland or San Jose to save money.

Now to the good stuff. I am bringing back an original aspect of the BAC 1 Hand Freestyle division again. Every Company that meets the minimum sponsorship level for the BAC will be allowed 1 player to get an automatic bid in the Single A Finals. Now something new... This year all International players that decide to fly out for the contest will be pre-qualified for the finals.

Now who is pre-qualified.....

2003 National Yo Yo Contest Finalists A and AA

2003 World Yo Yo contest Finalists A and AA 1
Player from each Sponsoring Company

That's it, but no worries if you are not pre-qualified, you can still make the finals. Since this contest also acts as a Regional Contest there is a way to get in the finals. All players from Region 7 must go thru the Nationals compulsories list in A and AA. Once we tally all the final compulsory scores we eliminate the pre-qualified players from the list. This leaves us with the remaining players from Region 7 - the top 5 non pre-qualified players from Region & also make the finals.

Now if you still are not pre-qualified or from Region 7 you can still make the finals. You must go thru the compulsories and the top 3 get an automatic entry into the finals. I know this sounds confusing but it works every year. We will be using the National Sports and String trick Ladders. Get ready for some serious Single A, and oh yeah there is a AA division :) Keep an eye out for the 2004 contest web page.

Texas State Yo-Yo Contest

Lewisville, Texas
May 15, 2004

This contest will be held at the Vista Ridge Mall - 2401 South Stemmons Freeway in Lewisville, Texas. Registration begins at 12:00 noon. Contest begins at 1:00pm (runs 1:00-4:00pm)

This event will have both yo-yo and spin top contests. This event is open to ALL levels of players, from the very beginner to the most advanced. There is no entrance fee.

For more information on the Texas State Yo-Yo Contest, visit <http://www.spintastics.com/texascontest.asp>

Mid-Atlantic Regional

Wilmington, Delaware
May 29, 2004

www.mitchells.com/yoyo

North East Regional

Northampton, Massachusetts
June 13, 2004

www.neyy.com

Mid West Regionals

Mall Of America, Minnesota
June 19, 2004

www.spincentral.net

Yomega Y3A World Contest

Las Vegas, Nevada
July 23-24, 2004

www.yomega.com

World Yoyo Contest

Orlando, Florida
August 6-8, 2004

The World Yoyo Contest will again take place the first full weekend in August in Orlando, Florida. National Champions from around the world will compete with onsite qualifiers for the title of World Champion. For more information, visit www.worldyoyocontest.com

National Yo-Yo Contest

Chico, California
October 2, 2004

www.nationalyoyo.org

Yo-Yo Clubs (cont)

Houston

The Houston Moon Shooters Yo-Yo Club and Team is up and spinning. The club is free and open to anyone interested in yo-yoing. Members learn new tricks, improve their skill levels and compete in club contests. The more advanced players on the team perform synchronized freestyle demonstrations at city festivals, schools, churches, business events and yo-yo competitions. The club meets every other Saturday at the Harris County Fairbanks Branch Library, 712 N. Gessner, Houston, TX 77040 (one block north of Highway 290) You can contact Claudia via e-mail at houstonmoonshooters@juno.com.

UTAH

Salt Lake City, Utah

ClubYO meets the third Saturday of the each month from 3-5 pm at Trolley Square - 6000 South 700 East, Salt Lake City, UT. The meetings consist mostly of advanced players showing less advanced players the secrets of their favorite tricks and beginners will be learning the fundamentals. For more information, please contact www.hijinks.net

VIRGINIA

Herndon, Virginia

Meets the first Monday of the month in Hiddenbrook Club House (1508A Sadlers Wells Dr, off Hiddenbrook Dr, which is off Dranesville Rd) in Herndon, VA. from 6:30-8 pm. For further information, contact (703) 715-6290 for a recorded message. The club house phone number is 318-7159.

Merrifield, Virginia

A Yo-Yo Share, Show and Practice is held every third Wednesday of the month from 7-9 pm in the Fellowship Hall of Luther Jackson Middle School, located on Gallows Rd at Rt. 50, just outside the DC Beltway. For more information, contact Dick Stohr at (703) 451-3439 yoyoguy@erols.com or Tom Connolly at (703) 321-9430 cmyoo@aol.com

Recent Contests (cont)

German Masters (cont)

AA

1. Jan Schmutz	Switzerland	169,2
2. Dave Geigle	Germany	164,9
3. Ivo Studer	Switzerland	149
4. Marek Grummt	Germany	98,3
5. Chi Fay Tran	France	37,1
6. Johannes Voggenthaler	Germany	14,4
7. Torsten Bonk	Germany	0

Asia Pacific Yo-Yo Challenge

Singapore

November 27 - December 7, 2003

Mad Fest

Madison, Wisconsin

January 18, 2004

AA

1. Doctor Popular
2. Alex Ulrich
3. Alex Berengel

A

1. Alex Berengel
2. John Narum
3. Dave Posie

Ladder - All Ages

1. John Narum - finished ladder with only 1 miss
2. Brian Krause - trick 22
3. Mike McCabe - trick 21

Yo-Yo Extravaganza

Eden Prairie Center

January 31, 2004

Freestyle

1. Alex Berengel
2. John Narum

Advanced Ladder

1. Jason Karrol
2. Eric Phommavonxay

Intermediate Ladder

1. David Eastwood
- 2.

Beginner Ladder (18 & under)

1. Max
2. Brett Bowles

Beginner Ladder (19 & older)

1. Scott Bohler
2. Mike Cummings

Minnesota State Yo-Yo Contest

Minneapolis, Minnesota

February 6, 2004

AA

1. Paul Yath
2. John Narum
3. Alex Ulrich

A

1. Alex Berengel
2. Paul Yath
3. John Narum

Advanced Ladder

1. Jason Kaplin
2. Simon Kaplin
3. John Narum

Intermediate Ladder

1. Brian Krause
2. Isaac Mross
3. Kevin Elvin

Beginner Ladder (15 & Under)

1. David Larson
2. Aaron Bohler
3. Peter Thorton

Beginner Ladder (16 & older)

1. Dan Gruhlke
2. Kevin Harstad
3. Mike Cummings

Thanks to Mookie Narum for these stats.

Georgia State Yo-Yo Contest

Atlanta, Georgia

February 6, 2004

First, I'd like to thank everyone that came out and participated in today's event. All of you made the event very memorable and fun!

We had plenty of space this year despite the smaller venue. Even more exciting was the number of people in attendance just to watch. I think we were all just a bit surprised.

This year's winner - Georgia State Champion - gets seeded into the South East Regionals. That honor goes to Anthony Greer! Great job!

Tier 1 Ladder

- 1st - Rob Tsou
- 2nd - Josiah Kailing
- 3rd - Kevin Jones

Tier 2 Ladder

- 1st - Styron Pennywell
- 2nd - Travis Bish

Tier 3 Ladder

- 1st - Anthony Greer (Georgia State Champion)
- 2nd - Josey McCormick
- 3rd - Michael Cady

F.A.S.T. Challenge

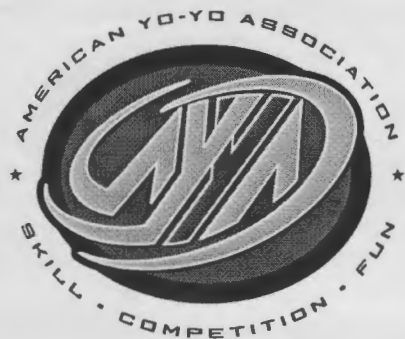
- 1st - Josey McCormick
- 2nd - Anthony Greer
- 3rd - Styron Pennywell

Fixed Axle Challenge

- 1st - Rob Tsou
- 2nd - Josiah Kailing
- 3rd - Josey McCormick

Spin Top Contest

- 1st - Matt Ritter
- 2nd - Michael Cady
- 3rd - Lao Alovus



Official American Yo-Yo Association Membership Application

BENEFITS

- Collectible AYYA Membership Card
- Embroidered (5 Color) AYYA Member Patch
- Three Yearly Issues of the Famous AYYA Newsletter
- Official AYYA Contest Rules
- Official AYYA Contest Tricks
- Official AYYA Judging Criteria
- Official AYYA Bylaws
- Voting Privileges in Industry and AYYA Topics
- Email link on official AYYA webpage
- Personal YO-YO webpage link on AYYA webpage.

...and much, much more.

AYYA MISSION

The mission of AYYA is to provide a venue for players and collectors to come together in fellowship and to engage in the promotion of yo-yo playing as an art form and a sport, for both amateur and professional players. It is also to render assistance to fellow yo-yo players and collectors; to provide an accessible source of information about yo-yo people and events; to conduct as many competitions as possible across the nation; and to establish uniform standards for running AYYA sanctioned competitions for all levels of skill from the novice to the professional.

Membership also helps support AYYA contests, prizes, activities and ongoing efforts to establish yo-yoing as an international sport. To join, fill out the form below and send, along with your check or money order to:

AYYA
PO Box 797
Valrico, Florida 33595

DUES

United States Members Membership Dues (US Dollars)

- Active Member (First Year) \$20
- Renewal Member -
 - 1 Year \$18
 - 3 Years \$50
- AYYA Membership with AYYA Big Ben \$33
- Family Membership \$25
(includes 2 persons, add \$5 for each additional family member)
- Full-Time Student (per year) \$15
- Newsletter subscription only (3 issues) ... \$10

International Members

Canada/Mexico add \$4 USD/year
Outside North America, add \$8 USD/year

Check One ☐ New ☐ Renewal
Check all that Apply: ☐ Player ☐ Collector ☐ Student ☐ Yo-Pro (gets paid) ☐ Sales/Mfg

Name: _____ E-Mail Address: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____ Date of Birth: _____

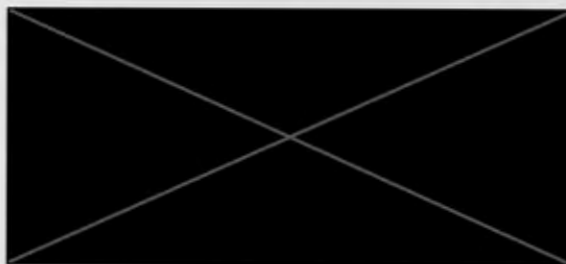


The American YO-YO Association
PO Box 797
Valrico, Florida 33595

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



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ARE YOUR DUES DUE? How to renew your current Active Membership or upgrade your Associate life Membership:

We look forward to receiving your current dues of renewals for 2004 and beyond. Please look at the mailing label on this page. You will see a the month and year which your dues are paid through. If the date reads February, 2004 or earlier, **THIS IS YOUR LAST ISSUE OF THE AYYA NEWSLETTER!**

You are considered an active member until the last day of the month listed on your label and are entitled to all benefits of an active member of the AYYA, thus you are receiving this issue of the AYYA Newsletter.

To pay your dues, please send a check or money order (in US Dollars, please) to the return address on this newsletter. It is best to include the Newsletter's official AYYA Membership Application and mark it as a 'renewal.'

Be sure to include any address changes and your e-mail address so that we can update the AYYA Membership roster. If you are not sure how much dues are, please refer to the AYYA Membership application in this newsletter.

The AYYA also offers a three (3) year renewal rate at \$50. Save money!

Dues are due the last day of the month your dues are paid through. If we do not receive your dues, we automatically reclassify your membership to an Inactive Membership level. We will also send you a reminder postcard indicating your dues as past due and the reclassification of your membership level.

Once again, thanks for your continued support of the American Yo-Yo Association and we look forward to meeting you at a future event.